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TODAY'S STYLE
Comfort in Moderation. Page 10

Real Madrid Arsenal Offers Replay After Cup Incident

LONDON — In an unprecedented move, Arsenal has offered to replay a match that it won because two of its players broke soccer's curfew rule.

Arsenal, the English Premier League, beat Sheffield United, 6-1, in the FA Cup match. But after the game, some Arsenal players were seen leaving the stadium before the curfew.

The winning goal was scored by Michael Owen, who was not in the lineup. Wenger offered Sheffield United the opportunity to replay the match following the withdrawal of the Arsenal players.

Manchester United wins, Page 14

Free Markets: Clinton Gave a Push

By Nicholas D. Kristof and David E. Sanger
New York Times Service

They were serious men, prosperous and pinstriped, and they derided "the politics of class warfare" as they conducted a job interview with the young governor from Arkansas.

It was steak dinner in a private room of the "21" Club in New York in June 1991, and the top Democratic executives on Wall Street were gathered at a round table to hold one of a series of meetings with presidential aspirants in what an organizer called "an elegant cattle show."

They were questioning a man with a meager salary but a silver tongue, and this was another show in which Governor Bill Clinton charmed his way to a blue ribbon by impressing the executives with his willingness to embrace free trade and free markets.

"What was discussed was the need for the Democratic Party to have a new and much more forward-looking economic policy," Roger Altman, a leading investment banker and an organizer of the evening, recalled recently. "The Democratic Party needed to move into a new economic world."

Aides describe that evening as an important step in the business education of Mr. Clinton, who came to repeat and amplify the themes, especially the need to move away from protectionism and push for more open markets in Asia and all over the world.

It was also the time that Mr. Clinton first met Robert Rubin, then the head of Goldman Sachs & Company, and although the initial encounter was cool, the two men eventually forged a close partnership that has left an enormous imprint on the global economy.

Mr. Clinton and Mr. Rubin, who became his treasury secretary in 1995, took the American passion for free trade and carried it further to press for freer movement of capital. Along the way, they pushed harder to win opportunities for American banks, brokerages and insurance companies.

This drive for free movement of capital as well as goods was one factor in the long American-led boom in financial markets around the globe. Yet, in retrospect, Washington's policies also fostered vulnerabilities that are an underlying cause of the economic crisis that began in Thailand in July 1997, rippled through Asia and Russia, and is now shaking Brazil and Latin America.

Countries like Thailand and Russia and Brazil are in trouble today largely for internal reasons, including poor banking practices and speculation that soured out of control. But some economists also say that if those countries had weak foundations, it is partly because Washington helped supply the blueprints.

They argue that the Clinton administration pushed too hard for financial liberalization and freer capital flows, allowing foreign money to stream into these countries and local money to move out. In many cases, foreign countries were happy to open up in this way because they thought it was the best road to economic development, but a wealth of evidence has shown that over-hasty liberalization can lead to banking chaos and financial crises.

Even some former administration officials acknowledge that they went too far. Mickey Kantor, the former trade representative and commerce secretary, now says that the United States was insufficiently aware of the kind of chaos that financial liberalization could provoke.

"It would be a legitimate criticism to say that we should have been more nuanced, more foresighted that this could happen," he said.

Speaking of the risks of financial liberalization without modern banking and legal systems, he compared them to "building a skyscraper with no foundation."

Although the Clinton administration always talked about financial liberalization as the best thing for other countries, it is also clear that it pushed for free capital flows in part because this was what its supporters in the banking industry wanted.

"Our financial services industry wanted into these markets," said Laura D'Andrea Tyson, the former chairman of Mr. Clinton's Council of Economic Advisers and later head of the National Economic Council.

Ms. Tyson says she disagreed to some extent with the push and was concerned about "a tendency to do this as a blanket approach, regardless of the size of a country or the development of a country."

Free capital flows, she worried, could overwhelm small countries or those with weak banking and legal systems, leading to a "run on a country."

This is not to say that American officials are primarily to blame for the crisis. Responsibility can be assigned all around, not only to Washington policymakers, but also to the officials and bankers in emerging-market countries who treated the mess to Western bankers and investors who blindly handed them money, to Western officials who hailed free capital flows and neglected to make them safer, to Western scholars and journalists who wrote paeans to emerging markets and the "Asian Century" — and to the people who planned an empty city named Muang Thong Thani.

Muang Thong Thani rises up above barren fields on the edge of Bangkok. It is a dazzling complex of two dozen

See MARKETS, Page 4



Supporters of Olusegun Obasanjo celebrating Monday in Jos, Nigeria.

Party Backs An Elder Statesman In Nigeria

Military Chief of 1970s
Seeks Return to Power
In Elections on Feb. 27

By Norimitsu Onishi
New York Times Service

ABIDJAN, Ivory Coast — Pledging to make Nigeria "great again," General Olusegun Obasanjo won the nomination of the country's leading political party on Monday as its presidential candidate.

General Obasanjo's selection by the People's Democratic Party set the stage for his return to the position he held 20 years ago, this time as a democratically elected president.

"My joy knows no bounds," the retired general said in an acceptance speech at the end of a contentious convention in Jos, in central Nigeria. "I will devote all my energy and all the powers available to me to the service of Nigeria and humanity."

His chief rival, Alex Ekwueme, a former vice president during a brief period of civilian rule in the early 1980s, stood behind the general, offering his congratulations and support in the Feb. 27 elections.

From 1976 to 1979, General Obasanjo, now 61, served as Nigeria's military president. He earned lasting esteem, especially in international circles, for being the only general to give up power voluntarily since independence from Britain in 1960.

Over the years, he has become an elder statesman in Nigeria, respected in the rest of Africa and in the West.

In 1995, he was arrested and jailed with several others on charges of plotting a coup against General Sani Abacha, whose ruinous rule ended only with his sudden death last June.

After General Abacha's successor, General Abdulsalam Abubakar, released General Obasanjo and pledged an end to military rule, many inside and outside Nigeria pressed him to run for the presidency, viewing him as the only man capable of keeping the military in check and of navigating the treacherous ethnic and religious waters in Nigeria.

So when he declared his candidacy under a scorching sun in early November on his farm out far from Lagos, General Obasanjo immediately became the front-runner.

"Every Nigerian has a stake in the survival and prosperity of the country," he said during the news conference that day. "This stake should be recognized. No section or group should be made to feel disenfranchised or alienated."

Just as quickly, though, criticism

Sorting Out Iraq Options

Chirac Will Offer
A Plan to Clinton
Turks Rebuff Aziz
On UN Compliance

By Craig R. Whitney
New York Times Service

PARIS — President Jacques Chirac hopes to make headway with President Bill Clinton this week on French proposals to lift the oil embargo against Iraq if Baghdad will let international inspections of its weapons programs resume, he said Monday.

"President Saddam Hussein, in my eyes, is responsible for all the miseries of the Iraqi people," the French president told American correspondents here before his planned meeting with Mr. Clinton on Friday in Washington.

But, he added, "the more the population suffers, the more it rallies to Saddam Hussein and strengthens him."

France, which was opposed last year to the British and American bombing of Iraq for refusing to cooperate with United Nations arms inspections, hopes to get the United Nations Security Council to approve a new plan to lift restrictions on the amount of oil Iraq can sell abroad if its leadership will agree to a new system of permanent monitoring

By Stephen Kinzer
New York Times Service

ISTANBUL — Iraq's second-ranking leader told Turkish officials Monday that his country had complied at least partly with United Nations resolutions and was ready for dialogue with all countries, including the United States.

According to informed diplomats, Turkey insisted that Iraq comply fully with all UN demands, including those that would force the country to open its weapons program to outside inspectors.

The visit of Tariq Aziz, the deputy prime minister, against a backdrop of U.S. and British air strikes against Iraqi targets, came as the United States continued trying to isolate and depose the Iraqi regime.

Although the visit was a symbolic victory for the Iraqis, it won them no substantive advantages.

The Clinton administration had expressed displeasure at Mr. Aziz's visit, saying it contradicted the U.S. policy of working to overthrow, rather than to negotiate with, the regime of President Saddam Hussein. Turkish leaders

Europe's Businesses Are in a Dark Mood

By John Vioacur
International Herald Tribune

FRANKFURT — Europe's economies are weakening, but with a contradictory element that leaves room for both a trace of optimism and the more frequent analysis here in the city's skyscrapers of cash that things will get worse.

With projections for growth pointing downward, the twist lies in the continuous rise of consumer confidence over the past seven months. It is at record levels in France and very healthy ones in Germany. But over the same period since July 1998, business confidence has retreated month after month in both countries, reflecting a darker view of Europe's prospects. New export figures from Germany to Russia and

China for late 1998 show declines of 50 percent and 32 percent from the comparable 1997 figures.

The consumers-versus-entrepreneurs conflict of sentiment plays itself out publicly through politicians' calls — which reflect their worries about a deep slowdown — for lower interest rates and the possible use of budget-stimulus measures. At the same time, fearing that too somber an outlook will affect consumer confidence, the politicians offer reassuring but contradictory tones that some economists say do not match reality.

In the extreme, the contrast comes to this: While Thomas Mayer, senior economist at Goldman Sachs & Co. in Frankfurt, said last week that he could envision a worst-case scenario in which the economy of the European Monetary Union zone could run into Japan-like

AGENDA

Clinton Warms to Idea of Wife in Senate

MEXICO, Mexico (AP) — President Bill Clinton said Monday that he thought his wife, Hillary, would make a "terrific" U.S. senator, but stressed that she had not decided whether or not to run for a New York seat.

"First of all, I think it's important that everyone understand that people in New York started calling her," the president said, answering questions after his private meeting here with

Serb Leader Rejects NATO Force Anew

Hours after the international community openly charged Serbian negotiators outside Paris with obstructing a peace settlement with Kosovo secessionists, the president of Serbia amplified Yugoslavia's refusal to allow foreign troops on its soil and revealed a raft of new objections to political autonomy for the predominantly ethnic Albanian province.

"We're against any kind of foreign troops" on Yugoslav soil, said the Serbian president, Milan Milutinovic.

"If the agreement is good and fair and supported by a vast majority of residents of Kosovo," he said, "no foreign force is necessary to make them implement it." Page 6



Mr. Clinton strolling Monday with Mr. Zedillo at the Hacienda Temozon.

Awaiting Albright Visit, China Frees a Journalist

Dissident Served 5 Years for Political Writings

By Erik Eckholm
New York Times Service

BEIJING — Two weeks before a planned visit here by the U.S. secretary of state, China granted early release Monday to a prominent journalist who has spent more than five years in prison for writing about Chinese politics in a Hong Kong publication.

The journalist, Gao Yu, now 55, has served all but nine months of a six-year sentence, given at a closed trial in 1993 for "revealing state secrets."

Miss Gao's sentence was widely viewed as a warning to other Chinese journalists not to venture onto sensitive ground, and her case became a cause of international press organizations.

She has also appeared on lists of high-profile political prisoners that senior U.S. officials privately raise with China's leaders when urging them to improve their nation's record on human rights.

Secretary of State Madeleine Albright is expected here in early March to help prepare for an April visit to Washington by Prime Minister Zhu Rongji. Although the visit is intended to focus

on economic and environmental issues, it is certain to be dogged by questions about the harsh sentences recently dealt to leading democracy campaigners.

Miss Gao's release came on the eve of the Lunar New Year, or Spring Festival, China's biggest holiday.

"This is my happiest Spring Festival in 10 years," Miss Gao's 27-year-old son, Zhao Meng, told reporters. He said she was in good spirits but suffers from high blood pressure and heart problems and will seek medical care after spending this week resting with her husband and close relatives.

The authorities had turned down earlier requests for medical parole.

In 1989, Miss Gao was deputy editor of the Economic Weekly magazine, which played a part in the opposition ferment of that year and was shut down by authorities after the June 4 crushing of the Tiananmen Square demonstrations. Miss Gao had been arrested on June 3 and spent 15 months in jail without being formally charged.

In 1993, she was rearrested after she

The Dollar		
	5 P.M.	previous close
London	1.1232	1.1233
Paris	1.1232	1.1233
Frankfurt	1.1232	1.1233
Yen	115.82	114.29
DM	1.7418	1.7393
FF	5.8396	5.8122

U.S. financial markets were closed Monday for a holiday.

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Is China as a Threat, Overrated?
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Newsstand Prices	
Bahamas	1.000 BO
Cyprus	0.210
Denmark	17 DKR
Finland	12.000 FM
Gibraltar	2.085
Great Britain	21.000
Egypt	5.500
Kenya	1.250 JD
Kuwait	700 KWD

Court Ruling for 'Jeans Alibi' in Italy Rape Case Rekindles Furor

By Alessandra Stanley
New York Times Service

ROME — After 20 years of intense political and social debate, Italy amended its antiquated rape laws three years ago, toughening the punishment for sexual assault and reclassifying it from a moral offense to a criminal felony. That long-awaited change was widely viewed not just as a feminist victory, but as a sign that Italian society had overcome old biases and deeply entrenched cultural taboos.

Then came the "denim defense," or what Italian

lawmakers are calling, the "jeans alibi": a court ruling that suggested that a woman cannot be raped if she is wearing jeans because they are impossible to remove unless she helps. That decision — and the country's reaction to it — has once again reopened an angry debate about rape, and how judges view sexual assault.

A group of female lawmakers are on an open-ended "jeans strike" — they say they will wear jeans to Parliament until the decision is changed. In a kind of media déjà-vu, Italian newspapers, television and radio talk shows are holding impassioned discussions on a subject that many

believed was resolved years ago.

Last week, the third division of the Supreme Court of Appeals in Rome made public the text of a November ruling that overturned the 34-month sentence of a convicted rapist in southern Italy.

Among other things, the court stated that "jeans cannot be removed easily, and certainly it is impossible to pull them off if the victim is fighting against her attacker with all her force."

That was but one of several arguments that led the court to order a new trial for the defendant. But the point about jeans set off an explosive reaction.

Alessandra Mussolini, a conservative member

of Parliament and the granddaughter of Benito Mussolini, along with other female lawmakers from other political parties, donned jeans and held a protest inside Parliament.

The court ruling continues to dominate public discussion — and mockery. In Rome and in Naples over the weekend, shop owners began waggishly marketing "anti-rape jeans" as St. Valentine's Day gifts.

The case, which was filed in 1992, pitted an 18-year-old girl against her 45-year-old driving

See RAPE, Page 6

Military Growth Discounted / Despite Theft of Technology and Political Role in U.S.

The China Threat, Some Experts Insist, Is Overrated

By Patrick E. Tyler
New York Times Service

NEW YORK — For anyone charting the rise of China, it has been a pretty scary couple of years. In early 1997, the first reports surfaced that China's Communist Party leaders had set out to funnel money into Democratic political campaigns to buy influence. Then there was a stream of reports that Chinese rocket scientists had taken advantage of their American partners in the space-launch business to improve the accuracy of China's strategic nuclear arsenal.

Most recently, a bipartisan congressional panel concluded in a 700-page classified report that Chinese agents had pilfered an array of sensitive U.S. military technology over the last two decades, including, perhaps, the design secret of one of America's most sophisticated thermonuclear warheads, the W-86, which sits atop the Trident II missiles in U.S. submarines.

It all seems to add up to an alarming picture of military modernization, coinciding with steadily expanding defense budgets to finance the purchase of new Russian warplanes, submarines and destroyers.

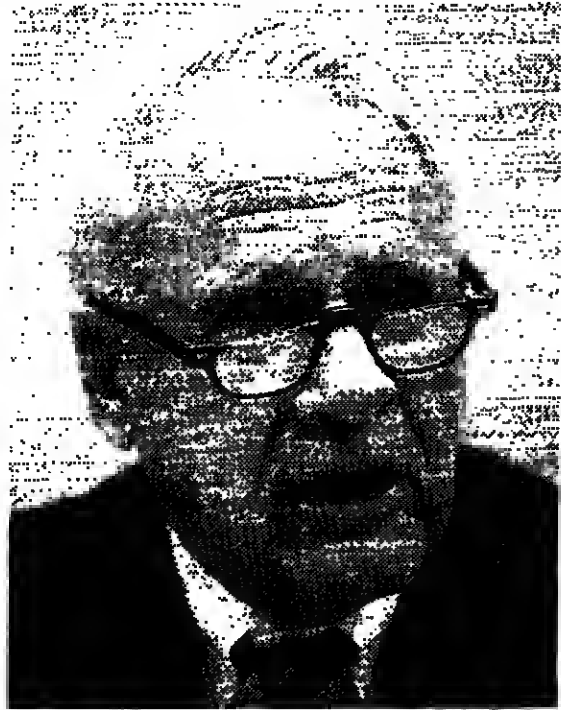
Is the China threat coming true?

The question betrays America's Cold War legacy. China certainly intends to establish itself as a credible military power, one that can defend its national interests near its shores, whether that means fighting for its share of the oil resources of the South China Sea or asserting its sovereignty over Taiwan — still separated from the mainland since Chiang Kai-shek fled there with his army in 1949.

But there is no evidence that China is seeking to compete with the United States as a global military power as the Soviet Union once did. Some experts now argue that with the collapse of the Soviet Union, China is turning into America's foremost rival, aiming itself for the day when it can kick the United States out of Asia and then lord it over Japan, Taiwan and the Southeast Asian nations.

THESE EXPERTS cite as evidence of China's hostility its missile tests and war games near Taiwan in 1995 and 1996; in response, U.S. aircraft carriers were sent to deliver a pointed message to Beijing that military coercion would not be tolerated. But others say that America should relax about China and resist the Cold War reflex, with its Chinese advance, to grab a shovel to dig at both sides in the backyard.

James Schlesinger, a former defense secretary and the dean of the Cold Warriors in the 1970s, says: "China is not going to be a world power in the existing period, and possibly never. They recognize it, and the last thing they want is to



The New York Times

tangle with the United States." Robert Suttner, until recently the CIA's senior analyst for Asia and now a visiting fellow at the Brookings Institution, agrees. The intelligence community consensus on China "doesn't add up to a threat," he says.

Still, with the passing of the Cold War, during which China and the United States had common interest in opposing Soviet adventurism in Africa, the Middle East and Asia, there is little today that anchors the U.S. relationship with China. Hence President Bill Clinton's difficulty in sustaining a policy of engagement in the face of each new report of dissident arrests, technological espionage and the missile buildup against Taiwan.

Whatever challenge China might pose in the future, it won't be anything like the danger once posed by Soviet divisions poised against Europe, by Soviet armadas in every ocean and thousands of Soviet nuclear warheads aimed at America.

While Moscow built a wall around its irrational economy, China has been busy building export markets, opening its economy and expanding personal freedom at home (up to a point). Having witnessed Japan's success, China's leaders believe that in the next century, national power will be measured by economic strength, not military.

Therefore, China is joining world institutions,

not threatening them. Chinese exports are the engine of China's growth. They have given Beijing the same stake in peace and stability that every other nation has in the era of globalization.

Mr. Schlesinger says the danger of overindulging America's worst fears about China is that it might actually produce the hostile opponent that some Americans foresee. Get over it, he says.

To experts like him, China's gradual military modernization is an inescapable outgrowth of national development. In this view, the disturbing record of Chinese espionage in the United States proves only that Beijing has been pursuing its own interests much as Taiwan, Egypt, Israel, Russia, France and Brazil all have, at the United States' expense.

Even that reality may not be so alarming. The roots of the Chinese espionage go back to the late 1970s, when the Chinese leader, Deng Xiaoping, pressed American officials for technology to help his country modernize. It is now known that he also hedged his bets by ordering China's spy agency to go after critical technologies through the back door. Much of the effort, however, was hunched or detected by U.S. intelligence.

And anyway, for all of China's illicit acquisitions, the Chinese military stubbornly refuses to improve.

John Colver, the CIA's military expert on China, told a National Defense University forum



NYT

'China is not going to be a world power in the existing period, and possibly never,' Mr. Schlesinger says. They recognize it, and the last thing they want is to tangle with the United States.'

last year that China's army "is still largely the same force it was at the time the U.S.S.R. collapsed," and that "it is still overwhelmingly a ground army with an inventory of weapons that, in most cases, has been deployed with the same units for up to 30 years."

Even with new Russian jet fighters, submarines, destroyers and a whole array of new missiles, Mr. Colver argued, the Chinese Army has established only a few "pockets of modernity" and has failed to alter the military balance with Taiwan.

ON AVERAGE, Chinese pilots fly far fewer training hours than those in any modern air force. The Chinese Navy and Air Force are facing obsolescence of their Soviet-era warplanes and warships.

Two Stanford University researchers, John Lewis and Xue Litai, report in a new study that by 1990, half of the aircraft in the Chinese Air Force were not operational. Even with new Russian purchases, Chinese air power hardly exists.

Yet the risk of confrontation remains. If Taiwan declared its independence tomorrow, or if Beijing issued an ultimatum for Taiwan's reunification with the mainland, a new crisis could erupt.

The debate over China is only going to get louder as the 2000 presidential election season approaches. Both Republican and Democratic strategists see China policy as a rallying point for voters concerned about human rights, religious freedom and the proliferation of Chinese nuclear and missile technologies to unstable regions.

A huge factor in China itself, where repression remains a dominant feature of the security apparatus and where some military leaders wear their chauvinism like a battle ribbon.

Since Woodrow Wilson's time 80 years ago, Americans have insisted that their foreign policy reflect moral values, and China continues to rub America the wrong way. Ten years after the Tiananmen massacres, polls show that Americans, by a roughly two-thirds majority, are still inclined to think the worst of China.

Mr. Schlesinger is among those who are inclined the other way, which may seem strange for an old Cold Warrior. China, he says, should not become America's "designated enemy." The Chinese still look to America to help them overcome the daunting challenges of rebuilding backward industries, managing scarce resources and alleviating poverty and environmental degradation.

"It would be self-defeating as well as a negation of the magnanimity of the United States," he says, "to presuppose that China must turn into a hostile nation."

China could still turn hostile, Mr. Schlesinger says. But if it does, he adds, it would be best if America were not the cause.

Sunken Sub Yields 3 Shoes To Be Given Back to Japan

By William J. Broad
New York Times Service

NEW YORK — In a small way, Paul Tidwell is closing the circle for more than 100 Japanese families torn by war.

A half-century ago, their loved ones disappeared at sea aboard the I-52, a Japanese submarine. The craft was carrying two tons of gold and other material to Hitler when American forces torpedoed it in the Atlantic, sending the warship to a grave more than three miles down.

Mr. Tidwell was to fly to Japan on Monday to give the families three shoes he found near the sunken warship. The families, all members of a group formed to honor the I-52 dead, have planned memorial services across the country this week.

For decades, the I-52 was presumed lost forever, its 109 men gone, little more than memories. But in 1995, Mr. Tidwell, a maritime researcher, used advanced technology to find the submarine and in November he returned with a group of experts for a close inspection. He and his team photographed the ship and saw not only its anti-aircraft guns but also a glove, a sweater and a pair of binoculars.

A war hero himself, with two Bronze Stars won in two tours of duty in Vietnam, Mr. Tidwell is also a businessman eager to maintain good relations with the Japanese as he works to recover the two tons of gold that eluded him on a recent expedition. The 146 bars are worth about \$20 million.

"A lot of guys set out to do what Tidwell did," looking for a lost treasure ship, said Richard Billings, who is writing a book about the submarine's discovery. "He actually found it, photographed it, honored it and is now returning part of it to the families."

Mr. Tidwell held his own memorial service for the soldiers when he was at sea, laying a dark wreath on the choppy waters above the wreck and a Japanese flag on the side of the sunken submarine.

"Seeing the sub, practically touching it, was for me the peak of an eight-and-a-half year journey," he said in a statement soon after the expedition ended in December.

William Gordon, one of two U.S. Navy pilots credited with sinking the I-52 and one of three squadron members who were on the recovery expedition, said Mr. Tidwell's respect for the lost men was clear.

"He's very serious about that," Mr. Gordon said.

Mr. Tidwell learned of the gold in May 1990 while doing research in the National Archives, when he discovered a once-secret wartime document that told of I-52's lost cargo of gold bars.

Longer than a football field, the I-52 was crossing the Atlantic as a cargo vessel laden with metals and raw materials for the Nazi war machine. On a moonless night in June 1944, it was intercepted by an American task force.

The submarine's exact resting place was long unknown, because navigation in wartime was often crude. Mr. Tidwell drew on American and Russian naval experts to find the I-52, first dangling a sonar on a long line from a ship and then confirming the discovery with a tethered camera pod.

The I-52 rests in the mid-Atlantic about 1,200 miles (1,900 kilometers) west of the Cape Verde Islands. It is 3.2 miles down, about a mile deeper than the Titanic.

After Mr. Tidwell announced the find, some Japanese officials said the I-52 and its cargo remained Japanese property. But Mr. Tidwell vowed to press ahead. He was aided, specialists say, by Japan's post-war constitution, which renounced warships and allowed Japanese military forces to engage only in self-defense.

Even so, Mr. Tidwell promised that he would return personal artifacts he was able to raise. The Japanese group receiving them is the Association of the Bereaved Families of I-52.

Mr. Tidwell plans to return to the site perhaps as soon as this spring to try to recover the gold.

Hong Kong Blocks Deportation of 18

Group Freed to Fight for Residency; Beijing Disputes Territory's Ruling

Reuters

HONG KONG — A court here Monday blocked the deportation of 18 people from mainland China who were fighting to stay in Hong Kong after a landmark immigration ruling last month, court officials and their lawyer said.

The court move is likely to further strain relations between Hong Kong and Beijing, already locked in the first constitutional dispute since Britain returned the territory to China in 1997.

The mainlanders argue that they have the right to stay in Hong Kong, based on a ruling last month by the territory's Court of Final Appeal. The court said the territory's constitution, the Basic Law, gave all mainland children of Hong Kong residents the right to live in the territory.

China wants that ruling changed. Authorities freed the other 17 main-

landers Monday after releasing one of them from jail Sunday.

"We're very pleased to be released," Wang Lianquan, one of the freed mainlanders, told reporters. "We still believe in law."

The overjoyed mother of a released child said, "I hope he will be given an identity card and allowed to stay."

They are among some 700 mainlanders who have sought legal aid to fight for their right to obtain permanent residence in Hong Kong since the Court of Final Appeal made its ruling.

Officials estimate that 400,000 mainland Chinese could claim the right to live in Hong Kong under the ruling.

The 18 mainlanders, whose China-issued visas had expired, had been held in jail and were scheduled to be deported. But Monday's ruling allows them to remain free in Hong Kong while

they pursue their cases with the support of legal aid.

The Court of Final Appeal's ruling triggered the most serious test to date of the "one country, two systems" formula that ensured a peaceful change of sovereignty when Britain left Hong Kong.

China objected to the Hong Kong court interpreting the Basic Law governing, a prerogative Beijing feels rests exclusively with its Parliament. Beijing has told Hong Kong that parts of the ruling are unconstitutional and should be changed.

The 18 mainlanders were due to be deported not only because they had overstayed visas issued by China but also because they did not have Hong Kong Certificates of Entitlement to prove they were the children of permanent Hong Kong residents. Before the Hong Kong court's ruling in January, mainlanders had to wait for the certificates in China and obtain an exit visa in a potentially lengthy process.

Call for Talks With Taiwan

China's prime minister reiterated calls for talks with Taiwan as soon as possible on reunifying the mainland with the island that it claims as a renegade province, state media said. The Associated Press reported in Beijing.

Speaking at a reception to mark the arrival of the Lunar New Year on Tuesday, Zhu Rongji said reunification was "the common aspiration of the whole nation."

He added, "We call on the Taiwan authorities to clearly see the way things are going, to hold political negotiations with us as soon as possible," according to the official Xinhua press agency.

Taiwan's Nationalists have ruled the island since they fled there in 1949 after losing a civil war to Communist forces on the mainland. China has repeatedly called for negotiations on unification. But Taiwan says continued talks about less sensitive issues such as fishing rights and protecting Taiwanese investors in China are needed first, to nurture the trust needed for political talks.

TRAVEL UPDATE

More American Pilots Return After Protest

DALLAS (Reuters) — American Airlines may have all its flights back to the air by Tuesday as more pilots returned from a weeklong protest under orders from a federal judge, backed by a \$10 million fine, the carrier said Monday.

American, which was forced to slash half its daily schedule and strand hundreds of thousands of passengers at the peak of the dispute, said cancellations were down to about 14 percent of its 2,250 scheduled flights Monday.

"The number of pilots on the sick list is fast approaching levels that are normal for our daily operations," an American spokeswoman, Sonja Whittemore, said. Airline officials have said the usual number of pilots sick at any given time is 300 to 400. "We remain optimistic that we may be able to resume nearly 100 percent of our schedule by as early as Tuesday," she said.

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Musee d'Orsay to Show

Loaned French Works

PARIS (AP) — Six Impressionist masterpieces not seen in France in nearly half a century are to go on show starting Tuesday at the Musée d'Orsay.

The works by Degas, Monet, Manet, Renoir and Courbet are loaned from the Stadelches Kunststiftung und Stad-

tische Gallery in Frankfurt, which is currently undergoing renovation.

They works include Monet's "Dejeuner" — a large-format luncheon scene showing two adults and a blond baby waving a silver spoon amid a sunny view of Dutch homes along the Zaan river in the Netherlands.

Skiers Are Arrested

For Leaving a Trail

PARIS (AP) — Two skiers have been arrested in the French Alps for skiing off of marked trails because of a ban enacted after avalanches left 18 people dead in the last week.

The ban in the Haute-Savoie region prompted such anger among mountaineers and skiers that officials in Chamonix were forced over the weekend to reduce the ban.

Still, two skiers in the area managed to run afoul of the law and were arrested on Sunday, RTL radio reported Monday.

Commuters in London faced delays getting to work Monday as train drivers and station guards staged a 48-hour strike against London's subway system. (AP)

Crowds in Athens crammed into buses and trains as taxi drivers began a 24-hour strike in the Greek capital on Monday. A small number were allowed to operate to aid people with health problems or facing emergencies. (AP)

WEATHER

Europe									
Country	City	High	Low	High	Low	Country	City	High	Low
Algeria	Algiers	14/17	8/12	10/13	4/9	Belgium	Brussels	10/14	5/10
Andorra	Andorra	14/17	8/12	10/13	4/9	Bulgaria	Sofia	10/14	5/10
Austria	Vienna	10/14	5/10	10/13	4/9	Croatia	Zagreb	10/14	5/10
Bosnia	Sarajevo	10/14	5/10	10/13	4/9	Czech	Prague	10/14	5/10
Brazil	Brazilia	10/14	5/10	10/13	4/9	Denmark	Copenhagen	10/14	5/10
Canada	Ottawa	10/14	5/10	10/13	4/9	Egypt	Cairo	10/14	5/10
China	Beijing	10/14	5/10	10/13	4/9	Finland	Helsinki	10/14	5/10
Colombia	Bogota	10/14	5/10	10/13	4/9	France	Paris	10/14	5/10
Croatia	Zagreb	10/14	5/10	10/13	4/9	Germany	Berlin	10/14	5/10
Czech	Prague	10/14	5/10	10/13	4/9	Greece	Athens	10/14	5/10
Denmark	Copenhagen	10/14	5/10	10/13	4/9	Hungary	Budapest	10/14	5/10
Egypt	Cairo	10/14	5/10	10/13	4/9	Ireland	Dublin	10/14	5/10
Finland	Helsinki	10/14	5/10	10/13	4/9	Italy	Rome	10/14	5/10
France	Paris	10/14	5/10	10/13	4/9	Japan	Tokyo	10/14	5/10
Germany	Berlin	10/14	5/10	10/13	4/9	Korea	Seoul	10/14	5/10
Greece	Athens	10/14	5/10	10/13	4/9	Latvia	Riga	10/14	5/10
Hungary	Budapest	10/14	5/10	10/13	4/9	Lithuania	Vilnius	10/14	5/10
Ireland	Dublin	10/14	5/10	10/13	4/9	Malta	Valletta	10/14	5/10
Italy	Rome	10/14	5/10	10/13	4/9	Netherlands	Amsterdam	10/14	5/10
Japan	Tokyo	10/14	5/10	10/13	4/9	Norway	Oslo	10/14	5/10
Korea	Seoul	10/14	5/10	10/13	4/9	Poland	Warsaw	10/14	5/10
Latvia	Riga	10/14	5/10	10/13	4/9	Portugal	Lisbon	10/14	5/10
Lithuania	Vilnius	10/14	5/10	10/13	4/9	Romania	Bucharest	10/14	5/10
Malta	Valletta	10/14	5/10	10/13	4/9	Russia	Moscow	10/14	5/10
Netherlands	Amsterdam	10/14	5/10	10/13	4/9	Slovakia	Bratislava	10/14	5/10
Norway	Oslo	10/14	5/10	10/13	4/9	Slovenia	Ljubljana	10/14	5/10
Poland	Warsaw	10/14	5/10	10/13	4/9	Spain	Madrid	10/14	5/10
Portugal	Lisbon	10/14	5/10	10/13	4/9	Sweden	Stockholm	10/14	5/10
Romania	Bucharest	10/14	5/10	10/13	4/9	Switzerland	Zurich	10/14	5/10
Russia	Moscow	10/14	5/10	10/13	4/9	Taiwan	Taipei	10/14	5/10
Slovakia	Bratislava	10/14	5/10	10/13	4/9	Thailand	Bangkok	10/14	5/10
Slovenia	Ljubljana	10/14	5/10	10/13	4/9	Turkey	Istanbul	10/14	5/10
Spain	Madrid	10/14	5/10	10/13	4/9	Ukraine	Kyiv	10/14	5/10
Sweden	Stockholm	10/14	5/10	10/13	4/9	USA	New York	10/14	5/10
Switzerland	Zurich	10/14	5/10	10/13	4/9	UK	London	10/14	5/10
Taiwan	Taipei	10/14	5/10	10/13	4/9				
Thailand	Bangkok	10/14	5/10	10/13	4/9				
Turkey	Istanbul	10/14	5/10	10/13	4/9				
Ukraine	Kyiv	10/14	5/10	10/13	4/9				
USA	New York	10/14	5/10	10/13	4/9				
UK	London	10/14	5/10	10/13	4/9				

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NOTE TO READERS

Technical and production problems in Athens delayed publication of the Monday issue of the International Herald Tribune in Greece and of regional news pages from Kathimerini. We apologize for the inconvenience to our readers.

Correction

Because of an editing error, a Page 1 article in Monday's issue on the Kosovo peace talks incorrectly stated the U.S. position on whether the talks could be extended beyond this coming weekend. Secretary of State Madeleine Albright said there was no question of extending the talks.

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THE AMERICAS

Party Postmortem: Damage Control Is Focus of Centrist Republicans

By Kevin Sack
New York Times Service

MIAMI — Exasperated and demoralized, a group of centrist Republicans caucusing here on the weekend after President Bill Clinton's acquittal warned that the party must broaden its appeal, recapture its agenda and isolate its right wing if it expects to heal the political wounds inflicted in its prosecution of the president.

Several of the speakers who addressed the Republican Leadership Council over two days, including Governors Christie Whitman of New Jersey and John Rowland of Connecticut, used unusually blunt language in assessing the damage to the party.

"These are tough times for the Republicans," Mrs. Whitman said in an address Saturday. "There are no two ways about that."

She added: "The fact is that many Americans right now have an impression

of the Republican Party that's mean-spirited, vindictive and was not attending to the public's business. It's not up to us to argue with those critics right now. It's up to us to figure out how we repair the damage and how we move on."

Mr. Rowland suggested that the fallout from the impeachment and trial of Mr. Clinton on charges of perjury and obstruction of justice had strengthened an already entrenched image of Republicans as negative and intolerant. The Senate trial ended last Friday with votes of acquittal on both articles of impeachment, with neither count gaining a majority.

"We have done incredible damage, because in my opinion we've developed a laundry list of people that we're against," Mr. Rowland said.

Mr. Rowland, who won re-election to a second term last year, went on to say that Republican policies and platform plank over the last two decades had alienated women, union members, im-

migrants, minorities, the elderly, teach-

ers, homosexuals and environmentalists. "I will report to you that the good news is that the rich people and the business people still like us," he said. "But that's about it. Unless they can vote four or five times each, we've got some problems in the next couple of campaigns."

The meeting here, at the Doral Golf Resort and Spa, put on public display the intraparty tensions exposed by the Republicans' electoral setbacks in November, when the party lost seats in the House of Representatives, and by its dogged pursuit of a popular president on charges stemming from an extramarital affair.

Although many in attendance said they saw opportunity in the party's current misfortunes, the sessions often had the feel of one of those post-election confabs where party activists gather to assign blame for a failed strategy.

The Republican Leadership Council, once known as the Committee for Re-

sponsible Government, was formed in 1992 in response to what its founders viewed as the gratuitously intolerant tone of that year's Republican National Convention in Houston. Its mission statement promotes the "fundamental Republican ideals of fiscal conservatism and social liberalism."

The group unabashedly seeks to replicate the methods and successes of the Democratic Leadership Council, an older organization once led by Mr. Clinton that has pushed Democratic politics toward the center.

Many of the group's leaders support abortion rights. But they say the council's primary mission is to eliminate all manner of litmus tests from Republican politics, particularly on social issues.

Many among about 70 people at the weekend gathering said they thought that the party's Washington leadership had shown itself to be remarkably tone-deaf, at least partly because moderate voices had been drowned out by an

incessant blare from the right. The clear consequence, they said, has been that public opinion of Mr. Clinton's job performance has risen during the impeachment process while Republicans have been blamed for leading the country through a tawdry spectacle.

"Does the Republican-controlled Congress operate under a mandate that requires it to elect leaders who are homogeneous, intolerant, good old Southern boys who are prone to say dumb things?" asked Richard Blank Jr., a securities trader from Rumson, New Jersey. "If we don't deliver good sound bites, we can't put a new face on our party."

Lawrence Wertzner, a campaign consultant from Princeton, New Jersey, said the party had bungled its politics twice in six months, first by making the 1998 off-year election a referendum on impeachment and then by ignoring the results.

"The voters gave their verdict," Mr. Wertzner said. "Instead of listening and

following the will of the people, we fought them. And it should be no surprise that we're paying the price for it."

Several council members warned that the Republicans would lose the 2000 presidential race, and possibly their congressional majorities as well, if the party did not move aggressively toward the middle and show itself to be engaged in kitchen-table issues like education, tax cuts, health care and Social Security. And it was vital, said one speaker after another, to stop allowing the party's social conservatives to define modern-day Republicanism.

"We have to get away from the perception that all we care about is whether or not Teletubbies are gay," Mrs. Whitman said, referring to an article published last week by Jerry Falwell, former leader of the Moral Majority, suggesting that the creators of a children's television show intended one of the characters to be a gay role model.

Ah! '50s Gang Life

Now It's an Art Show in New York

By Blaine Harden
New York Times Service

NEW YORK — They were the days.

A street tough named McGiff got himself skewered in Prospect Park with an army surplus bayonet.

Anthony Vivaldo, himself a tough and later a New York City police sergeant and now a dispatcher for a car service on Staten Island, saw it happen.

"I watched the blade go in and I watched the blade come out. McGiff lived," marveled Mr. Vivaldo, although he said the man later died of heroin addiction.

Rekindled by photographs taken 40 years ago, such brass-knuckled memories overwhelmed a gathering last weekend of the remnants of a Brooklyn street gang.

They assembled at an Upper East Side gallery to commemorate black-and-white images of themselves frozen in late 1950s cool.

Men pushing 60, with wives and grown children listening in wide-eyed amazement, rhapsodized about fist fights that occurred during the Eisenhower administration.

Patrick Fenton, then a gangly Irish kid with a pompadour and oom a part-time writer and fulltime court clerk at the state Supreme Court in Queens, remembered a drunken fight not so much for the punches as for its ending. "We both threw up," Mr. Fenton said.

Robert (Bengie) Powers, a former drug dealer and heroin addict and now an addiction counselor, said he never once won a fight unless three or four of "you guys held somebody down and I could beat them."

The reunion took place, around a table with pizzas and sodas, in a first-floor conference room at the International Center of Photography on Fifth Avenue.

On the floor above, a sizable Saturday crowd of paying customers inspected 50 photographs of the gang as they were in the summer of 1959, skinny and brooding, showing off tattoos and smooching with girls under the boardwalk at Coney Island.

The gathering was the work of Mr. Powers, who tracked down eight other gang members and their families, and of Bruce Davidson, the New York photographer who, when he was 25, spent several months hanging out in Brooklyn, carefully making pictures.

"I was very scared," Mr. Davidson remembered. "They were very unpredictable. I was never sure if their anger was going to focus on me."

Violent youth gangs were a much-publicized problem in New York City at the end of the 1950s. A Youth Board was created by the city to try to stop their fights.

The New York Times wrote a seven-part, front-page series in 1958 examining the antisocial behavior of adolescents in the "shook-up" generation. The series had a glossary that defined "rumble" as a gang fight.

From the calming distance of four decades, there is a temptation to see in Mr. Davidson's photographs a certain sweetness, even hope.

These were teenagers who hung out in candy stores, after all, not crack houses. They fretted about dance contests, not drive-by shootings. They crossed themselves when walking by churches; they did not murder rivals with 9-millimeter semiautomatic handguns.

Many of the teenagers in the photographs, however, inhabited a working-class Brooklyn where sweetness and hope were in desperately short supply.

If they had had guns, several former gang members said, they probably would have used them.

Mr. Powers, whose printed recollections narrate the photo exhibit, is remembered by Mr. Davidson as endlessly angry, "like some kind of wired marmot."

Like the other members of the gang that called themselves the "Jokers" and the "Eighth Avenue Boys," Mr.



Bruce Davidson, the photographer, left, and Robert Powers, ex-gang member.

Powers grew up in a mostly Irish neighborhood near Prospect Park, a place, he said, where "a kid wished he was dead a million times."

For gang members, it was a neighborhood where Catholic families were large, but cold. Fathers drank boiler-makers for breakfast before heading off to gray factories that lined the Brooklyn waterfront.

Factories kept closing in those years, tormenting unskilled men who had limited options and unlimited obligations. As gang members remember it, fathers self-medicated in street-corner bars before heading home, sometimes to take out their troubles on wives and children.

Mothers, too, were exhausted and often embittered from the ordeal of 6 or 8 or 10 pregnancies, from the importuning of children and from the periodic uselessness of husbands.

Mr. Powers remembers that both his parents, who lived in a five-room apartment with their eight children, were alcoholics and, for him, unreachable.

"It's not that they treated me bad," Mr. Powers said. "They didn't treat me."

Although the gang members did not have automatic weapons, they were — by their own admission — itching to

fight. "Did we fight with chains and pipes and knives? Yeah," said Mr. Powers, a small man with pale, watery blue eyes, a gray ponytail and two studs in his left ear.

"Did people get stabbed? Yeah, people got stabbed."

"And people got their heads cracked open with bats."

Mr. Powers and others at the reunion argued that they had more guts than gang members today who shoot at rivals from moving cars.

"Drive-by shootings?" Mr. Powers asked. "What does that take? It takes a job, as far as I am concerned. How about standing in front of somebody and punching it out?"

There are several from the gang who are dead, from cirrhosis, from drugs, from bullets fired outside a bar.

Yet around the table at the gallery, it was noisily apparent that gang life could give way to better things.

There were two retired police officers, an electrician, a retired transit worker, a hospital administrator, a singer.

There were handsome grown-up children who came of age in New Jersey or on Long Island and who know nothing of gangs, except from the papers and dad's stories over dinner.

52 Treaties in Senate Purgatory May Be Put to Rest

By Thomas W. Lippman
Washington Post Service

WASHINGTON — They all probably seemed like good ideas at the time.

Through months and sometimes years of negotiations, through scrutiny by lawyers, lobbyists and diplomats, they had their supporters. Each of the protocols, conventions and treaties with other countries signed by representatives of the U.S. government was drafted to address some burning economic, strategic or legal issue of the day.

But they never went into effect because the Senate never ratified them. They sit, years and even decades later, still annually awaiting the Senate's consent but mostly as dead as the Cold War. According to the Senate Foreign Relations Committee, there are 52 of these treaties that have never been ratified. The oldest was signed in 1949, an international labor agreement on protecting the right of workers to organize.

Some of the major treaties on the list stirred controversy, such as the 1979 SALT-2 strategic arms limitation agreement with the Soviet Union, which was pulled back by President Jimmy Carter from likely defeat in the Senate after the Soviet invasion of Afghanistan.

Another treaty is the Law of the Sea treaty, which was rejected by President Ronald Reagan in 1982, amended to meet U.S. objections, signed by President Bill Clinton and sent to the Senate in 1994. That treaty still awaits action, despite vigorous lobbying for it by the navy.

But most of the agreements are obscure and long forgotten, such as a 1982 consular convention with the minority apartheid government of South Africa.

The Senate did not reject them. It just never completed action one way or the other, for reasons as varied as the treaties themselves. Many went into force around the world as other countries ratified them, leaving the United States outside their jurisdiction.

"We have this mechanism by which a treaty can be sent up and put on the calendar and be there forever, never up or down," said Robert Dalton, the State

Department's assistant legal adviser for treaty affairs.

Mr. Dalton said vigorous opposition from any well-organized lobbying group was often sufficient to prevent ratification.

Last month, the Senate Foreign Relations Committee chairman, Jesse Helms, wrote to Secretary of State Madeleine Albright proposing a bipartisan agreement to clean out the dead wood. He said his committee hopes to clear some of the pending agreements for action by the full Senate. For the rest, he will seek a resolution to "return these treaties to the administration."

Mr. Helms, Republican of North Carolina, asked Mrs. Albright to give him a list of treaty priorities. The problem with that, State Department officials said, is the two have different priorities.

She has repeatedly asked Mr. Helms to expedite ratification of the 1980

United Nations Convention on Elimination of All Forms of Discrimination Against Women. That is not high on Mr. Helms' list.

Mrs. Albright's first priority is endorsement of the Comprehensive Test Ban treaty, banning all nuclear weapons tests. Mr. Helms, however, has said he will not move on that treaty until the administration submits to the Senate amendments to the 1972 Anti-Ballistic Missile Treaty with the Soviet Union that were negotiated in 1997 — amendments that Mr. Helms opposes and hopes to use as a vehicle for scrapping the entire ABM treaty.

"As I stated publicly last week," Mr. Helms said in his Jan. 29 letter, "the Committee will not consider major treaties such as the Comprehensive Nuclear Test Ban Treaty until the president has submitted the ABM Treaty amendments, and the Kyoto Protocol on Climate Change."

Mr. Helms also opposes the Kyoto protocol.

Senior administration officials are far from ready to submit either agreement. They want to hold back the ABM Treaty amendments until after the Russian parliament has ratified the START-2 arms control treaty, which it has steadfastly refused to do — and they intend to hold back the Kyoto protocol until major developing countries are prepared to accept its emissions limitations.

Mr. Helms, however, argued in his letter that "the executive branch cannot demand quick action on certain treaties and at the same time hold hostage other treaties fearing their certain rejection by the Senate."

The ABM amendments and the Kyoto treaty do not actually appear on the Foreign Relations Committee list of unratified treaties because they have never been submitted to the Senate.

Short on Money, a NASA Contractor Reaches Into a Museum to Replace Lost Booster Parts

The Associated Press

HUNTSVILLE, Alabama — A contractor for NASA has asked the U.S. Space and Rocket Center museum to return exhibit parts for future shuttle launches.

Citing a lack of parts and funding, Marshall Space Flight Center and United Space Alliance asked the center last week to return forward assemblies from the solid rocket boosters on the museum's full-size shuttle exhibit.

"I wouldn't have thought we would have given flight-ready hardware,"

Lynne Lowery, community affairs manager at Marshall, said in the Sunday issue of the Huntsville Times.

The segmented rocket boosters are the largest solid propellant motors ever flown, at 149 feet (45.4 meters) long and 12 feet in diameter. After a shuttle launch, the boosters are designed to separate at 220,000 feet and parachute back to the ocean. They are recovered and refurbished for future flights.

The forward assembly contains the booster's jetson rockets, electronics, recovery parachutes and self-destruct system, among other flight instrumentations.

John Chapman, deputy solid rocket booster project manager at Marshall, said the assemblies were designed for repeated use, but several have been damaged or lost since the U.S. shuttle program began in 1981.

He estimated it would cost about \$300,000 to lower the museum's boosters to the ground, remove the forward assemblies, restore them to flight-ready condition and build non-flight mockups for use in the museum exhibit.

But it would take three years and cost from \$5 million to \$10 million to find a manufacturer and build new forward assemblies. And the Clinton administration's fiscal 2000 request for National Aeronautics and Space Administration represents a decline for the fifth straight year.

Away From Politics

American Indians are the victims of violent crimes at more than twice the national average and 70 percent of those committing crimes against Indians are of a different race, according to a Justice Department study. About 60 percent of the perpetrators of violent crimes against Indians were whites.

A custodian at Walt Disney World in Orlando, Florida, died after he was swept from a platform by an elevated cable car and plunged 40 feet to the ground. (AP)

A fourth Ford employee has died from injuries suffered in a power plant explosion at the company's Rouge complex. Ken Anderson, 44, died in the intensive care unit where he had been since the Feb. 1 blast in Dearborn, Michigan. (AP)

Crews continued firebombing the wreckage of a cargo ship that ran aground near Coos Bay, Oregon, hoping to burn away the remnants of oil still in its cracked hull. (AP)

Clinton, Blamed for Trial, Still Scores High in Poll

By Richard Morin
and Claudia Deane
Washington Post Service

WASHINGTON — Most Americans approve of the Senate votes not to remove President Bill Clinton from office but blame him for the impeachment trial and remain divided over what, if anything, should happen next, according to a Washington Post survey.

A majority of those polled said the Senate should end attempts to censure or formally reprimand Mr. Clinton. But nearly half also said the president eventually should have to face criminal charges of perjury or obstruction of justice, either while he is still in office or after he leaves in January 2001.

But the survey contained other news likely to reassure the president and further frustrate his political enemies. After a year dominated by a sex scandal that led to his impeachment and trial, Mr. Clinton has been more popular with the American people.

While the public supported the impeachment verdict, most Americans disliked nearly everything that led to it. Partisan differences vanished as Republicans and Democrats alike expressed broad dissatisfaction with the impeachment process.

Nearly three out of four said Republicans had had a fair chance to present their case against Mr. Clinton in the Senate. It was a view shared by most Democrats and Republicans questioned in the poll — but not by some prominent Republican Party leaders, who have expressed anger about the restrictions placed on the House "managers."

By 54 percent to 42 percent, Americans said Mr. Clinton was more to blame for the impeachment trial than Republicans in Congress were.

Weariness rather than anger or glee seemed best to characterize the public mood at the conclusion of only the second impeachment trial in American history.

"I'm just glad it's over with," said Ronda Edgerton, 33, a social-services manager in Atlanta. "I think basically Clinton has been humiliated." She added: "But he did wrong, and I will admit he did wrong. I'm just glad we're finally at a place now where we can move on."

By 52 percent to 35 percent, Americans said they trusted Mr. Clinton more than congressional Republicans to deal with the country's biggest problems. Moreover, Mr. Clinton's edge on that question is larger than it was before the scandal surfaced 13 months ago, when 48 percent expressed more confidence in Mr. Clinton and 40 percent said they trusted the Republicans.

In fact, by virtually every important measure, Mr. Clinton's job-performance ratings are higher now than they were before the world heard the first reports of Mr. Clinton's relationship with the former White House intern Monica Lewinsky.

Today, his overall job approval rating stands at 68 percent, eight percentage points higher than in a Post survey taken immediately before the scandal broke in mid-January 1998.

During the past 13 months, the proportion of respondents who said they "strongly approved" of Mr. Clinton's job performance has nearly doubled, from 24 percent to 46 percent in the most recent poll. Three in four currently approve of the way Mr. Clinton is handling the economy, up 11 percentage points from the January 1998 pre-scandal poll. Two in three say they like the way Mr. Clinton is managing foreign affairs, another double-digit increase from pre-scandal surveys.

A total of 1,010 randomly selected adults were interviewed Friday night through Sunday for the poll. The margin of sampling error for the overall results is plus or minus three percentage points.

According to the poll, 64 percent of those interviewed approved of the "not guilty" verdict returned by the Senate on Friday on the two articles of impeachment, while 35 percent disapproved.

More than half — 56 percent — said the Senate should "drop the case without censuring Clinton," while 41 percent said he should be censured or formally reprimanded. It marked the first time in the Post's polls that a clear majority had failed to support censure, largely because the proportion of Democrats supporting censure fell dramatically in the wake of the Senate impeachment vote.

Yet many Americans remain troubled by the notion that Mr. Clinton may not be punished for his efforts to conceal an extramarital affair with Miss Lewinsky. Nearly half — 48 percent — said Mr. Clinton should "face criminal charges at some point," with a majority of those saying he should be charged after he leaves office.

POLITICAL NOTES

Reagan's Admirers Look to Rushmore

WASHINGTON — For some Republicans, naming an airport and an expensive new office building after former President Ronald Reagan isn't honor enough. Now, one lawmaker has started a campaign to put Mr. Reagan in the company of George Washington, Abraham Lincoln, Theodore Roosevelt and Thomas Jefferson — on the face of Mount Rushmore in the Black Hills of South Dakota.

Representative Matt Salmon, Republican of Arizona, sent his colleagues a letter this month asking them to sponsor an upcoming bill that would add Mr. Reagan's likeness to Mount Rushmore.

"History has already vindicated Ronald Reagan's positions, and we should honor him appropriately for his achievements," Mr. Salmon said in his letter, crediting the former president with winning the Cold War and turning the economy around.

The National Park Service, however, says Mr. Salmon's plan to carve Mr. Reagan's likeness into the stone would not work.

In 1989, the Park Service, charged with maintaining Mount Rushmore, commissioned a routine study of the monument's long-term stability and concluded the mountain cannot handle more carving or drilling.

A park service spokesman, David Barna, said the structure was too unstable, and added that Washington's face had so many cracks that future sculpting of the mountain could worsen the situation.

Mr. Salmon is not taking the administration's word for it.

The Arizona Republican plans to introduce his bill Feb. 25. Two Republican Representatives, Roscoe Bartlett of Maryland and John Kasich of Ohio, have said they will support the proposal, according to Mr. Salmon's press secretary, Michael Paranzino.

The legislation would create a nonprofit foundation to oversee the project and raise private funds for the endeavor. (WP)

Forbes Magazine Takes Aim at Gore

WASHINGTON — What some might see as an opening salvo in the 2000 presidential campaign appeared in a recent magazine piece. "Al Gore is obsessed with protecting the environment," it said. He is an "environmental extremist"; his aides seem to have an "anti-business bias"; some of his ideas are "loopy."

The magazine? Forbes. The one owned by Steve Forbes, who's been running for president since the end of his 1996 campaign. The billionaire Republican who wants to take on Mr. Gore, the likely Democratic nominee.

"We've been on an anti-regulatory kick for years," Mr. Forbes says. "The integrity of the magazine speaks for itself. It would be a travesty for our readers for me to say you cannot comment on anything that might be construed as critical of President Clinton or Gore."

Besides, says Mr. Forbes, the editor in chief, "if I tried to tell a reporter what to write, I'd get the opposite, and you'd read about it on Page Six of the New York Post." (WP)

Quote/Unquote

Richard J. Blank Jr., a securities trader from Rumson, New Jersey, at a meeting of the moderate Republican Leadership Council: "Does the Republican-controlled Congress operate under a mandate that requires it to elect leaders who are homogeneous, intolerant, good old Southern boys who are prone to say dumb things? If we don't deliver good sound bites, we can't put a new face on our party." (NYT)

ASIA/PACIFIC

World Puzzles Over Indonesia's Turnabout on East Timor

By Philip Shenon
New York Times Service

WASHINGTON — For almost a quarter-century, relations between Indonesia, the world's fourth-most-populous nation, and the United States, as well as the rest of the outside world, have stumbled over the fate of half of an impoverished island so small and so remote that even many Indonesians would have trouble finding it on a map.

But with the utterance of a few words by Indonesia's new president last week, the territory, East Timor, suddenly appears to be on the brink of independence. That has left the Clinton administration and other foreign governments puzzling over a response to Indonesia's turn-around.

Indonesia, on the verge of economic and political collapse as a result of the Asian economic crisis, seems eager to bid East Timor, a former Portuguese colony that was invaded and annexed by Indonesia in the mid-1970s over international protest.

Since then, the territory's name has become a rallying cry for human-rights campaigners.

"We don't want to be bothered by East Timor's problems anymore," Indonesia's new president, B.J. Habibie, said last week. "If someone asks me about East Timor, my suggestion is, Give them freedom. It is just and fair."

While welcoming the move toward independence for the 750,000 people of East Timor, U.S. officials and foreign diplomats say that if the break with Indonesia is too sudden, it could lead to chaos and even civil war as Timorese factions maneuver for power.

While the vast majority of the population is thought to favor independence, anti-independence East Timorese have formed small armed bands to fight to keep the territory part of Indonesia, the weapons provided to them by the Indonesian military.

"The Indonesians can't just pull out and expect it to be normal there," said Stanley Roth, assistant secretary of state for East Asian and Pacific Affairs. "Any

viable solution in East Timor must avoid the type of bloodshed that occurred in 1975, when Portugal withdrew."

Portugal abruptly pulled out of East Timor that year after nearly four centuries of colonization. Indonesia quickly invaded, annexing East Timor in 1976, and declaring it a province. The western half of the island, a former Dutch territory, was already part of Indonesia.

International human-rights groups have long accused the Indonesian military of a campaign of murder and torture to enforce the annexation of East Timor; human-rights groups say that up to 200,000 East Timorese have died since 1975 as a result of fighting with government forces or human-rights abuses.

President Suharto, who resigned under pressure last May after more than three decades in power, insisted that East Timor would forever remain part of Indonesia.

But his successor and former vice president, Mr. Habibie, recognized that East Timor had helped turn Indonesia into a ripe target for human-rights ac-

tivists, and that rights abuses there by the Indonesian military were damaging diplomatic and trade relationships at a time when Indonesia was desperate for international help.

"Indonesia is burdened with enough troubles now, without East Timor," said Daniel Lev, an Indonesian specialist at the University of Washington. "This is a very sensible decision that will work in Indonesia's favor. This would relieve Indonesia of an international burden and the international criticism it has faced since 1975."

Earlier this month, Mr. Habibie agreed to remove the long-jailed leader of the East Timorese independence movement from prison and place him under house arrest.

He also ordered Indonesia's foreign minister to meet at the United Nations with his counterpart from Portugal, which is still recognized by the United Nations as the territory's administrator, to discuss greater autonomy or independence for East Timor.

The fear, U.S. officials and foreign

diplomats say, is that Mr. Habibie may move too quickly, and that East Timor may find itself granted full independence from Indonesia before it is ready to govern itself, with the territory awash in guns.

Mr. Habibie has said he wants the issue of East Timorese autonomy resolved by the end of this year.

In testimony last week in Congress, Mr. Roth said the State Department had received "numerous reports that the Indonesian Army has been arming pro-integration militia groups" in East Timor.

He said the United States welcomed a recent statement by the Indonesian government that it would support an effort to disarm the groups before a withdrawal of Indonesian troops.

But human-rights groups question whether the Indonesian military, concerned that independence for East Timor could spark independence movements elsewhere in the ethnically diverse archipelago nation, is trying to encourage turmoil.

BRIEFLY

Happy Birthday, Great Leader Kim

SEOUL — Despite widespread food shortages, North Korea is celebrating the birthday of its leader, Kim Jong Il, with pledges to defy U.S. warnings and build up its military.

Mr. Kim turns 57 on Tuesday, which now is celebrated as the Communist state's biggest holiday. This is his first birthday since he officially became North Korea's head of state last September as chairman of the National Defense Commission.

On Monday, 6,000 officials and soldiers filled a stadium in Pyongyang, North Korea's capital, to renew loyalty to their "great leader" and his long-standing policy of emphasizing military power. (AP)

Pakistanis Protest Trip by Vajpayee

LAHORE, Pakistan — Militant Islamic groups condemned a trip by India's prime minister to Pakistan and threatened Monday to erect a "human wall" at the border to stop him.

Atal Bihari Vajpayee will come to Pakistan on Saturday on the first commercial passenger bus to cross the border between the two uneasy neighbors in 51 years. It is also the first visit of an Indian prime minister in 10 years.

Prime Minister Nawaz Sharif of Pakistan will meet Mr. Vajpayee at Wagha, a border town, and accompany him to Lahore, 22 kilometers (13 miles) away. Mr. Vajpayee will fly home Sunday. (AP)

Indonesian Military Supported on Riots

JAKARTA — Indonesia's Parliament endorsed Monday the military's policy of shooting rioters on sight amid fresh bloodshed at both ends of the vast archipelago.

At least 20 persons died in renewed Christian-Muslim violence in the east and two in the restive western province of Aceh during the weekend, officials said.

In Jakarta, Parliament endorsed an order by the armed forces' commander, General Wiranto, for his troops to shoot rioters or troublemakers on sight.

"Society needs to be protected," the deputy speaker, Hari Sabarno, said. (Reuters)

MARKETS: Clinton Pushed for Freedom

Continued from Page 1

huge gray-white buildings soaring nearly 30 stories high, and surrounded by streets lined with shops, town houses and detached homes. Walk closer and it feels eerie, for it is a ghost city.

Along one street of 100 houses, the windows are mere holes in the walls, and yards have weeds that grow as high as a person.

Muang Thong Thani was built during Thailand's boom as a product of free capital flows and financial liberalization. It was the great dream of Anant Kanjanapas.

One of 11 children born to an ethnic Chinese business tycoon in Thailand, Mr. Anant grew up with the wealth that his family had acquired through developing property and selling watches in Asia.

The family's Bangkok Land company began acquiring parcels of property near the airport, and they broke ground in 1990 on a megaproject to build a privately owned satellite city for Bangkok. Muang Thong Thani was to have a population of 700,000, bigger than Boston's.

The project was greeted enthusiastically, as all proposals were in the early 1990s, and Bangkok Land issued shares on the Thai Stock Exchange in 1992 to raise money. Its shares were hot, picked up by J. Mark Mobius, the emerging-markets guru, and by funds like the Thai International Fund and the Thai Euro Fund, which between them bought more than one million shares of Bangkok Land.

Free movement of capital is nothing new, for it was the norm during most of Western history. At the beginning of this century, anyone could move money across borders without difficulty.

The Great Depression changed all that. Governments moved to control capital so as to avoid what they saw as the chaos of capital rushing out of countries and triggering financial crises.

The result was that most countries of the world, including the United States in the 1960s, limited the right of companies and citizens to buy foreign securities or invest overseas. People were often allowed to buy only small amounts of foreign currency.

Then, as memories of the Depression faded, the tide shifted again in the 1970s and '80s. Starting in the United States and Europe, it became fashionable to let money move freely, and the Reagan administration began to push for free capital flows in other countries.

The Clinton administration inherited that agenda and amplified it. Previous administrations had pushed for financial liberalization principally in Japan, but under Mr. Clinton it became a worldwide effort directed at all kinds of countries, even smaller ones much less able to absorb it than Japan.

"We pushed full steam ahead on all areas of liberalization, including financial," recalled Jeffrey Garten, a former senior Commerce Department official who is now dean of the Yale School of Management. "I never went on a trip when my brief didn't include either advice or congratulations on liberalization."

This push for financial liberalization reflected Mr. Clinton's growing enthusiasm for markets and his desire to make the economy a centerpiece of his foreign policy. He created the National Economic Council as a counterpart to the National Security Council, and asked Mr. Rubin to be its first head. More broadly, this push was part of a global ideological shift in favor of free markets, as well as an increasing enthusiasm among developing countries themselves for lifting restrictions on the flow of money.

"We were convinced we were moving with the stream," Mr. Garten said, "and that our job was to make the stream move faster."

Mr. Garten said he could not recall hearing any doubts expressed about the policy, either within the administration or among officials overseas. Referring to Mr. Rubin, Mr. Kantor and former Commerce Secretary Ron Brown, Mr. Garten said, "There wasn't a fiber in those three bodies — or in mine — that didn't want to press as a matter of policy for more open markets wherever you could make it happen."

"It's easy to see in retrospect that we probably pushed too far, too fast," he said, adding, "In retrospect, we over-shot, and in retrospect, there was a certain degree of arrogance."

The push for financial liberalization was directed at Asia in particular, largely because it was seen as a potential gold mine for American banks and brokerages. Neither Mr. Clinton nor Mr. Rubin had much experience in Asia — Mr. Clinton as governor had led trade del-

egations to promote Arkansas chickens and rice, and Mr. Rubin had done business in Japan for Goldman Sachs. But Mr. Clinton as president has worked hard to strengthen American ties with Asia, as well as his own.

The idea was to press Asia to ease its barriers to American goods and financial services, helping Fidelity sell mutual funds, Citibank sell checking accounts and American International Group sell insurance. Mr. Clinton's links to Asia caused embarrassment after they led to the campaign finance scandals of 1996, but fundamentally, they reflected an appetite for business opportunities in Asian countries that had changed, as Mr. Clinton once put it, "from dominoes to dynamo."

His cabinet approved a "big emerging markets" plan to identify 10 rising economic powers and push relentlessly to win business for American companies there. Under Mr. Brown, the Commerce Department even built what it called a war room, where computers tracked big contracts, and everyone from the CIA to ambassadors to the president himself was called upon to help land deals.

Freer flow of money pumped up the Thai economy, and with the help of foreign cash Mr. Anant began to realize his dream. Muang Thong Thani gradually emerged from the surrounding fields, with its skyscrapers focused on a business district called Bond Street.

The result is that since the crash, Muang Thong Thani has everything but inhabitants. Bond Street is a mile-and-a-quarter strip of modern, window-lined buildings, but aside from a handful of colorful storefronts — a bank, a restaurant, a pharmacy and a few others — they are empty.

The command center for free markets is the third floor of the U.S. Treasury, where Mr. Rubin and his deputy, Lawrence Summers, share a suite facing the Washington Monument. Mr. Rubin presides in a spacious office.

Historically, the Treasury has tended to stake out free-market positions, but Mr. Rubin stepped up the pace even further, for he showed an intuitive tilt toward the market based on his three decades as an investment banker.

Within the Clinton administration, Mr. Rubin and Mr. Summers won increasing influence because of their skill at marrying international finance and foreign policy. Mr. Summers had been a prominent economics professor at Harvard, and Mr. Rubin had made a fortune on Wall Street, enabling him to take off on vacations with a fly-fishing rod that, as an aide joked, "probably costs more than your house."

Within the administration, there were occasional arguments about the virtues of free capital flows. Academic economists like Ms. Tyson and Joseph Stiglitz, former chairman of the Council of Economic Advisers, sometimes argued that the Treasury was too dogmatic in insisting upon free flows.

But there is considerable evidence that top administration officials were involved in some efforts to seek freer capital flows, as when they pressed South Korea to liberalize its financial system.

After interagency discussions, the administration dangled an attractive bait: If Korea gave in, it would be allowed to join the Organization for Economic Cooperation and Development, the club of industrialized nations.

"To enter the OECD," recalled a senior official of the organization, "the Koreans agreed to liberalize faster than they had originally planned. They were concerned that if they went too fast, a number of their financial institutions would be unable to adapt."

In the end, Korea opened up the wrong way: It kept restrictions on long-term investments like buying Korean companies, but it dropped those on short-term money like bank loans, which could be pulled out quickly.

A flood of capital poured into emerging markets in the early and mid-1990s, including \$93 billion in 1996 alone into just five countries: Indonesia, Malaysia, the Philippines, South Korea and Thailand. Then there was a net outflow of \$12 billion from those five countries in 1997. This turnabout, which was most evident in short-term loans, amounted to a financial hurricane, one that would harm any country in the world.

So, while economists welcome free capital flows in principle, extensive scholarly work had clearly established the importance of "sequencing," meaning that countries should liberalize capital flows only after building up bank supervision and a legal infrastructure. A French scholar, Charles Wyplosz, of the Graduate Institute of International Studies in Geneva, concludes in an academic paper that "financial market liberalization is the best predictor of currency crisis."



BRIGHT LIGHTS — An ornaments vendor for the Lunar New Year awaiting customers Monday in Jakarta's Chinatown. Many Chinese have chosen to spend the holiday abroad, fearing violence.

DISSIDENT: Journalist Is Freed

Continued from Page 1

wrote a series of articles about Chinese politics in Hong Kong publications. Mirror Monthly and Overseas Chinese Daily.

The offending articles, written under a pseudonym, included one analyzing the continuing power of Deng Xiaoping, who was nominally retired. Another analyzed the Communist Party's retreat from its vow to separate the party and the government. The government charged that the articles were based on secret official documents, which she firmly denied.

Her 1993 arrest came two days before her planned departure to take up a fellowship at the Columbia University Graduate School of Journalism in New York.

She received the six-year sentence in late 1994.

"This sentence can devastate my health but not my spirits," she said then in a defiant statement to the court, noting that her body was ailing after the year in detention awaiting trial. "I am willing to sacrifice all that I have for my country's modernization and journalism."

In 1997, Miss Gao received the first annual award for press freedom from the UN Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization.

In a response she relayed through relatives during one of their monthly 30-minute prison visits, she expressed deep thanks for the support and vowed, "When I leave prison and regain my freedom, I will use my pen to repay the world and my homeland."

INTERNATIONAL



DAY OF MOURNING — A Russian woman holding a portrait of her son, killed in the Afghan war, during a ceremony Monday in St. Petersburg marking the 10th anniversary of the Soviet pullout from Afghanistan.

BRIEFLY

Artillery Quiet on Eritrean Front

ASSAB, Eritrea — Ethiopian and Eritrean artillery fell silent on Monday after pounding each other in an intensification of their border war at the weekend.

Both sides said that there was no fighting on any of the three military fronts along the border but that their forces were prepared for more assaults.

"We are holding our positions, and we'll wait to see what the Ethiopians do next," an Eritrean official said.

In Eritrea's Red Sea port of Assab, residents and officials reported heavy artillery exchanges along the border about 70 km (40 miles) to the southwest throughout Sunday, and the town showed signs of a huge military buildup.

Roads leading from the port area out of the city were rutted by tank tracks and many private vehicles have been camouflaged with a mixture of grease and red dust to offer disguise outside urban areas. (Reuters)

Americas' Prelates Meet in Cuba

HAVANA — Cuba's top church official criticized ideologies on both sides of the political spectrum as prelates from across the Americas gathered to discuss the church's role in the Western Hemisphere.

The death penalty, abortion, human rights and the U.S. embargo against Cuba all impoverished the people of the Americas, Cardinal Jaime Ortega declared during a homily in the Havana cathedral. Five cardinals, 25 bishops and one priest traveled to the Cuban capital for the Latin American Episcopal Conference, which will study how to put into effect Pope John Paul II's call during his visit to Mexico last month for more evangelization in the hemisphere. The group includes 15

bishops from the United States and Canada, but the focus appears to be more on the poorer nations to the south. (AP)

Kenya Frees Suspect in Killing

NAIROBI — One of two suspects charged in the 1988 murder of British tourist Julie Ward was freed on Monday after the case against him was thrown out for lack of evidence. Christine Meehl, a senior resident magistrate in Nairobi, reviewed the documents setting out the attorney-general's case against David Ole Nchoko, 33, but said she found no evidence directly linking him to the murder. (Reuters)

Deadly 1918 Virus Was Like Swine Flu

WASHINGTON — A frozen corpse and preserved samples from victims of the 1918 flu epidemic that killed up to 40 million people worldwide show the virus resembled the common swine flu, scientists reported Monday.

Tissue samples from three people who died in the epidemic have provided enough genetic material to allow researchers to sequence one key gene of the virus, a team from the U.S. Armed Forces Institute of Pathology wrote in the Proceedings of the National Academy of Sciences. The existing strain to which the 1918 sequences are most closely related is A/Sw/Italy/30, the oldest classical swine flu strain, the scientific team, led by Ann Reid and Jeffrey Taubenberger, wrote.

Researchers have been eager to discover what made the 1918 strain of flu so different — and so deadly. "The influenza pandemic of 1918 was exceptionally severe, killing 20 to 40 million people worldwide, with unusually high death rates among young, healthy adults," the team wrote.

Scientists also wanted to know where the virus originated because that can help doctors understand how best to fight the disease.

The Armed Forces Institute of Pathology team used samples from an Alaskan Inuit who was buried in permafrost on the Seward Peninsula; tissue preserved in formaldehyde from a 21-year-old soldier who died at Fort Jackson, South Carolina, and a 30-year-old who died at Camp Upton, New York.

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BRIEFLY

Happy Birthday, Great Leader Kim

Kim Il-sung, the founder of North Korea, turned 85 today. He is the only leader in the world to have lived longer than his country. He was born in 1912 in a village in North Korea. He led the country for 45 years. He died in 1994. He was buried in a mausoleum in Pyongyang. He is still worshipped as a god in North Korea.

Pakistanis Protest Trip by Vajpayee

Indian Prime Minister Atal Bihari Vajpayee's visit to Pakistan has sparked protests in Islamabad. The protesters are demanding that the Indian government withdraw its troops from Kashmir. They are also demanding that the Indian government release the prisoners of war.

Indonesian Militia Supported on Rise

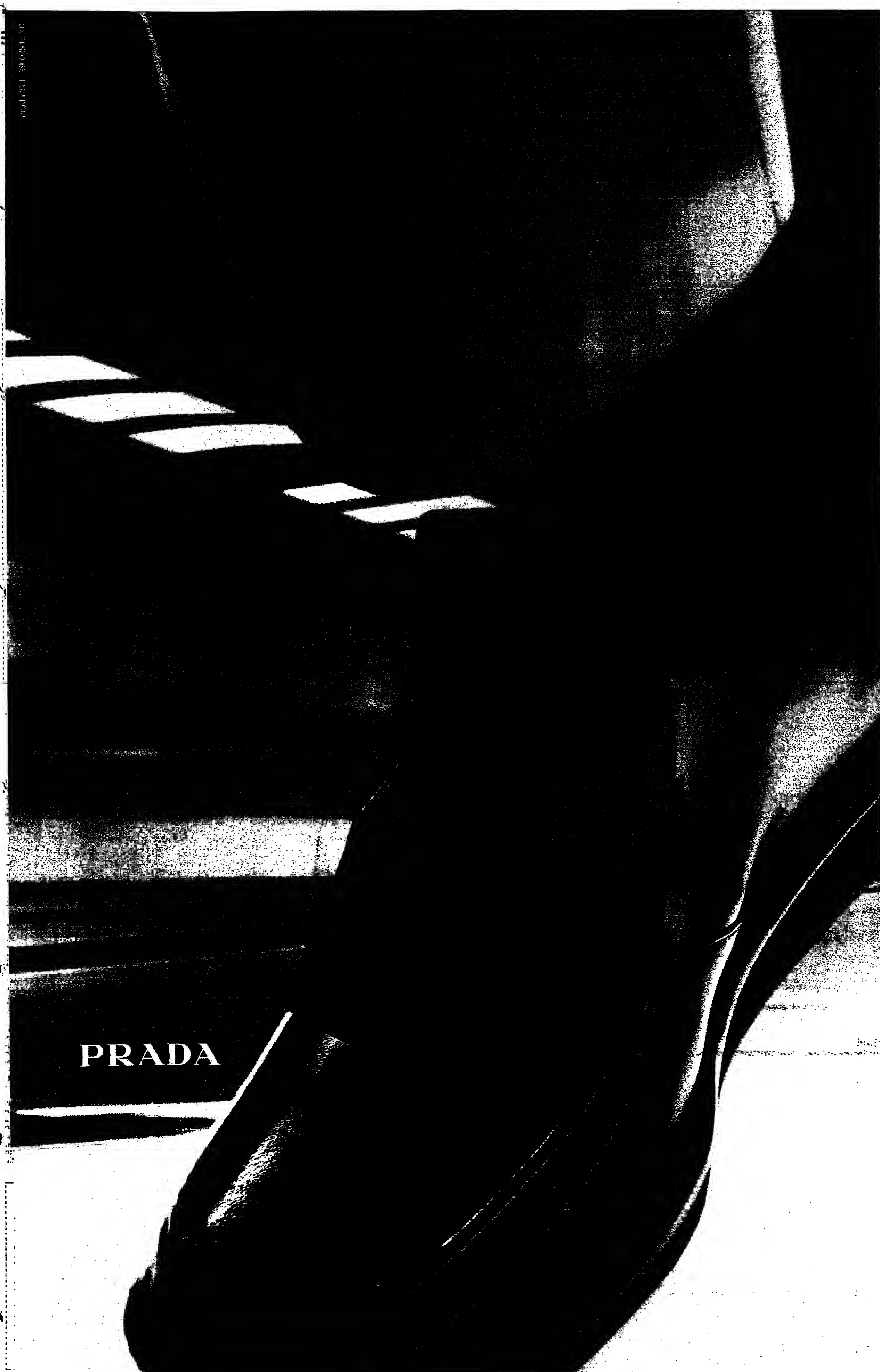
The Indonesian militia, known as the Laskar Jihad, has been reported to be growing in strength. The militia is active in the Aceh province. They are fighting against the Indonesian government. They are also fighting against the United States. They are demanding that the Indonesian government withdraw its troops from Aceh.

NIGERIA: Party Picks Its

The Nigerian People's Party has won the state assembly elections in Lagos. The party is led by the late Chief Obafemi Awolowo. The party is a major political force in Nigeria. It has won many elections in the past. It is now the largest opposition party in the Nigerian parliament.

Was Like Swine

The article discusses the behavior of a group of people in a certain country. It says that they were acting like swine. It says that they were eating and drinking in a very messy way. It says that they were also behaving very badly towards each other. It says that they were also behaving badly towards the people of other countries.



PRADA

EUROPE

NATO Force for Kosovo: Serbian President Isn't Giving In

By Charles Trueheart
Washington Post Service

PARIS — Hours after the international community openly charged Serbian negotiators here with obstructing a peace settlement with Kosovo secessionists, the president of Serbia amplified on Monday Yugoslavia's refusal to allow foreign troops on its soil and revealed a raft of new objections to political autonomy for the predominantly ethnic Albanian province.

"We're against any kind of foreign troops" on Yugoslav soil, said the Serbian president, Milan Milutinovic, at a press conference here as the Kosovo talks went into their eighth day in Rambouillet, outside Paris.

"If the agreement is good and fair and supported by a vast majority of residents

of Kosovo," he said, "no foreign force is necessary to make them implement it."

The imposition of a military force, led by NATO and dominated by Europe, to which the United States would contribute as many as 4,000 soldiers, is the proposed cement in the three-year interim settlement envisioned for the Balkan enclave of 2 million.

The force is designed to provide security guarantees to Kosovo's rebels, who would be required to end their year-old armed struggle for independence and turn over their weapons to international peace monitors after the withdrawal of all but a skeleton force of the Yugoslav and Serbian Army and police.

Mr. Milutinovic added that if the multinational force "is for chasing the terrorists—we can do that ourselves." The Serbian side regularly refers to the

Kosovo Liberation Army, the most radical of the Kosovo elements represented at Rambouillet, as terrorists.

The foreign ministers of the United States, France, Britain, Germany, Italy and Russia — the Contact Group of nations sponsoring the talks — met Sunday to extend the slow-moving Rambouillet negotiations until noon Saturday.

Judging from the stiffening position of the Serbian side, that deadline appears increasingly unrealistic, unless, as a Western diplomat speculated, it is a deliberate rhetorical ploy to serious compromise by Serbia on the force to be led by the North Atlantic Treaty Organization.

On Sunday, the U.S. secretary of state, Madeleine Albright, convened the first nonceremonial meeting at the talks attended by both warring sides. Mr.

Milutinovic said Monday that the meeting "was just blah-blah, and nothing substantial." But he repeated his government's wish for regular face-to-face talks with the Kosovars.

The standing threat of NATO air strikes against Yugoslavia if no settlement is reached at Rambouillet was repeated Sunday by Mrs. Albright and other Western leaders, but contradicted by the Russian foreign minister, Igor Ivanov, whose country has long rejected military action to force a settlement.

"There is no military solution to this problem," he said before leaving Paris on Monday.

Mr. Milutinovic said: "Bombs have never contributed to just and lasting solutions. Bombing represents a war crime and a crime against humanity and an aggression against our country."

The president of Serbia, the principal republic in Yugoslavia, has been monitoring the talks in France and giving regular press conferences, but he suggested Monday in response to a question that he was not in regular contact with Slobodan Milosevic, president of Yugoslavia.

Mr. Milutinovic also attacked the draft settlement's political provisions, including constitutional elements that had not been considered issues of major conflict. He said proposals advanced by international mediators "practically imply the separation" of Kosovo "from the state of Serbia."

For example, he said, it would be "impossible" to give a newly autonomous Kosovo Province a banking system and property rights differing from the rest of Serbia and Yugoslavia.

IRAQ: Turkey Rebuffs Aziz on Compliance

Continued from Page 1

counted that their country, as a neighbor of Iraq, needs to be in contact with its government.

Diplomats who participated in the Ankara meetings said Mr. Aziz had been soft-spoken and not confrontational.

They said he asked Turkey to help persuade foreign powers that Iraq is not bent on unending confrontation with the rest of the world. "He made the point

that he wants dialogue, even with the United States," a diplomat said.

"He wants the world to acknowledge that there has been at least some compliance with the UN."

On the key issue of the Incirlik air base in southern Turkey, from which U.S. planes regularly patrol Iraq, Mr. Aziz made no progress.

Diplomats said he did not even mention it directly during his talks with Prime Minister Bulent Ecevit and other senior officials.

Later, Vice President Taha Yassin Ramadan of Iraq said that his country would attack Incirlik if Turkey continues to allow it to be used as a base for monitoring the northern no-flight zone. The Associated Press, reported from Baghdad.

"If the Turkish base continued attacking Iraq, it will certainly be" targeted, he said in an interview with Radio Monte Carlo.

[Iraq has already threatened bases in Saudi Arabia and Kuwait used to monitor the southern no-flight zone.]

In an interview published Monday in a Turkish newspaper, Mr. Aziz said: "The use of Incirlik air base by American planes to bomb Iraq is a blemish on Iraqi-Turkish relations. We must eliminate this blemish."

Foreign Minister Ismail Cem pledged before the talks that Turkey would not restrict U.S. use of Incirlik.

"It would not be a serious attitude to think that Turkey would simply close down Incirlik air base and therefore damage its ties with the United States just because someone requests us to do so," Mr. Cem said. "There is no possibility of creating a rift with the United States."

He added, however, that American and Turkish policies toward Iraq were not identical.

"The United States' priority, as they have declared, is to change the system in Iraq regardless of what happens," he said. "Our concern is our neighboring country's territorial integrity. We differ from America in this respect. This is very clear. Other than that, there isn't a rift."

A Foreign Ministry spokesman, Sermet Atacani, more explicitly ruled out Turkish cooperation in efforts to topple President Saddam.

"It is not in our tradition to make judgments as to how countries should be ruled, especially neighboring countries, and how they should be changed," Mr. Atacani said in Istanbul.

"We don't feel it is up to Turkey to take any steps to interfere in what we consider the internal affairs of a neighboring country. The United States may have a policy and is entitled to it. This is not our style or our policy."

Foreign diplomats posted in Ankara said that although Mr. Aziz's visit had irritated the Clinton administration, it had not produced any change in Turkish policy toward Iraq.

"Iraq is now more isolated than ever, especially since the death of King Hussein, and Turkey is about the only place the Iraqis can use to tell the world what's on their mind," an ambassador said.

"But Turkey has only one real friend and that's the United States."

"They're not going to do anything to upset that relationship. They've been quiet and they've suffered a lot for that friendship. That could create a split between the U.S. and Turkey."

Bombing Continues

U.S. and British planes continued Monday to pound targets in Iraq two months after December's Desert Fox bombing campaign, with no end in sight and no apparent change in policy on either side, Agency France-Presse reported from Washington.

Since early January, Baghdad has increasingly challenged allied activity in the northern and southern no-flight zones imposed by the United Nations at the end of the Gulf War in 1991. The zones were designed to protect Iraq's Kurdish and Shiite populations.

The routine almost never changes: Iraqi anti-aircraft radars lock on to allied planes patrolling the zones or Iraqi planes provoke allied jets by venturing into the zones, where they are prohibited.

Other times Iraqi anti-aircraft batteries fire on allied planes.

The U.S. and British jets then strike back with missiles and bombs.

The Iraqi tactic seems to have had little success.

On Monday, a Pentagon spokesman, Lieutenant Colonel Jody Spencer, said that seven U.S. planes as well as an unspecified number of British aircraft had hit a surface-to-air missile site, two telecommunications sites and an anti-aircraft defense site in southern Iraq.

The Ministry of Defense in London confirmed that its planes had been involved.

In northern Iraq, a U.S. plane dropped a bomb on an anti-aircraft artillery site north of the city of Mosul after it was fired on, according to a statement from the U.S. military in Turkey.

Report of Iraq Deal Denied by Moscow

Reuters

MOSCOW — The government denied Monday a British newspaper report that it had signed a secret deal with Baghdad to upgrade Iraq's air defenses in violation of a UN embargo.

"Russia fully and meticulously adheres to its obligations under UN Security Council resolutions concerning Iraq," the government press office said.

"The allegations by the British press have clearly been initiated by those who would want to cast a shadow over Russia's course toward a political settlement of the Iraqi problem," it said.

The Sunday Telegraph reported Russia had signed arms deals with Iraq valued at more than \$100 million (\$163 million).

CHIRAC: A French Proposal

Continued from Page 1

of sites that could be used to make or store weapons of mass destruction.

As French officials explain the proposal, sophisticated outside monitoring of what Iraq did with the revenues from oil sales, plus television and satellite monitoring of the weapons sites, would provide effective warning of any new attempts by Baghdad to buy or manufacture components for nuclear, biological and chemical weapons.

In any case, Mr. Chirac and others say, any controls would be more effective than none, and that is all there are now inside Iraq. United Nations inspectors pulled out before the bombing, and Saddam Hussein has refused to let them back in.

The United States has rejected lifting the embargo. Continuing international pressure could encourage Iraqi opposition groups in exile or inside the country to rise up and overthrow Saddam Hussein, Washington says, but that is just wishful thinking, as Mr. Chirac sees it.

"Getting rid of Saddam Hussein is easily said, but very difficult to do," he said. But if the international community made clear it would let Iraq import more medicine, food, and other necessities if Saddam Hussein agreed to a new system of arms controls, the regime in Baghdad might feel more pressure to go along with them, Mr. Chirac said.

Both French and American military officials fear that the longer the current impasse continues, with American and British warplanes bombing Iraqi air defense sites almost daily, the greater the risk that eventually an American plane could be shot down and the crew lost or taken prisoner, bringing on a new international diplomatic crisis.

Mr. Chirac said he did not think that either the United States or an actor on the world scene or President Clinton personally had been gravely hurt by his impeachment and acquittal by the Senate.

"I don't see any weakening," Mr. Chirac said. "On the international stage, President Clinton has a good image, of someone who is likable, intelligent, cultivated, and has good judgment. All this means that President Clinton's authority has not been shaken at the international level."

The French leader's personal relationship with Mr. Clinton has been warm despite disagreements between the two countries on getting approval from the United Nations Security Council before going ahead with strikes against Iraq.

Mr. Chirac has recently been calling for stronger international representation in the International Monetary Fund and other international institutions to make sure that Europe and other regions continue to be heard despite America's dominant position in world affairs.

"It has long been obvious to me that Europe should take more responsibility for its own defense," he said of French successes in getting Britain and Germany to join France in working out arrangements for an independent European role within the North Atlantic Treaty Organization.

"What we don't want to do is create tensions with the United States."



VIVID PROTEST—Flames enveloping a Kurdish protester in Athens who set himself afire Monday to put pressure on the Greek government to offer political asylum to a Kurdish rebel leader, Abdullah Ocalan. The protester suffered serious burns to his hands and face; another demonstrator was also burned.

EUROPE: Businesses Fear Slowing Growth as Exports Slump

Continued from Page 1

this year (compared with 3.8 percent in the first quarter of 1998), Italy at 1.2 percent and France a bit better at 2 percent. For next year, 2000, the brokerage's overall European outlook gets worse.

Influenced by the foundering first three months of Chancellor Gerhard Schröder's government, the mood in the banks and brokerages in the streets around the new European Central Bank is far from up-beat.

Eckhard Schulte, senior economist of the Industrial Bank of Japan (Germany), said that he felt Europe was "going through hard times" and that statements like the one from Mr. de Silguy were so far out of touch they were "undermining the credibility of the commission."

In fact, he asserted that Europe, as an open economy more dependent on exports than the United States, was particularly vulnerable to the effects of an external slowdown.

Illustrating this, capital-goods orders in Germany plummeted in the last quarter of 1998, while exports to the Netherlands, a leading trading partner, declined.

Exports to South Korea were off 45 percent in a year, and declines between 12 and 35 percent were registered for Singapore, Malaysia, Indonesia, Thailand and the Philippines, according to the federal statistical agency.

The reality of Europe suffering from the series of international financial

crises — in contrast to its politicians' assertions that EMU would provide shelter from them — has deeply affected business European confidence since the middle of last year.

This negative outlook accelerated, in the view of segments of the Frankfurt investment community, with the election of the Social Democratic government in Bonn last autumn and its perceived failure to offer business real prospects of tax cuts, freer labor markets and incentives to risk-taking.

Because consumer confidence is a lagging indicator, it grew in the second half of the year on the basis of good growth and some progress in lowering unemployment in the early part of 1998 — albeit to rates still above 10 percent in France and Germany.

Mr. Mayer said the crucial issue was whether declining business confidence would lead to new layoffs. Growing unemployment figures would hurt consumer confidence and rule out the possibility that domestic demand could compensate for the loss in exports.

"The fact is," Mr. Schulte said, "industrial confidence drives the cycle. The question is, will consumer confidence keep the economy going until the industrial cycle picks up. If sentiment stabilizes, that would be positive."

But he was not optimistic, and he projected a decline in the euro to a level of \$1.05 by the end of 1999, compared with about \$1.17 at the beginning of the year. Neither was Johannes Reich, who

heads equity research at B. Metzler & Sohn & Co., one of Frankfurt's oldest private banks. He said he saw the economies of the European Central Bank into their instrument.

"Europe is going back to 1970s remedies to some extent," he said.

Referring to the German finance minister, he said, "Oskar Lafontaine points to the Fed as an example of policy-making, but it's an entirely false one because it uses a United States that has undergone deep structural reform and compares it with a Europe that is still waiting for its own."

"I don't see anything stimulating growth right now," Mr. Reich said, "and there are more risks in the offing."

Mr. Mayer of Goldman Sachs found the issue of labor-market flexibility and structural reform "the red line dividing Europe" between countries such as Ireland, the Netherlands and Finland, where there had been some, he said, and Germany, where he considered the new government was doing "the opposite, almost a mirror image, of what is needed."

Stressing Germany's disproportionate role in Europe's economic well-being, Mr. Mayer said, "If I were to wear my German hat, I'd be very, very negative." But, he added, better performance in some of the smaller countries "prevent the situation from looking totally bleak."

Mr. Mayer believes that at its weakest — a worst-case set of circumstances — Europe could be pushed by political pressure from the governments in Germany and France toward a Japanese situation.

He defined that as one where interest rates had been cut to zero and monetary policy was no longer effective. If Europe were also to attempt to fire up its economy through budget-stimulus measures, Mr. Mayer said, a brief lift would be followed by a petering out and a limited net effect.

"What Japan shows you is that a lack of structural reform and heavy reliance on monetary and fiscal policy is a dead end," he said.

Deep structural reforms in Europe could create new demand, Mr. Mayer said, but with the present political lineup, "they are not going to come."

IRA Arms Row Delays Vote

New York Times Service

BELFAST — An emotional day-long debate Monday on disarmament of the Irish Republican Army disrupted the Northern Ireland Assembly, as Protestant and Roman Catholic leaders failed to approve the sweeping political changes that are supposed to end sectarian violence in this British province.

The 108-member Assembly, charged with enacting the peace agreement approved last year, had been scheduled to vote Monday afternoon on the changes, creating new governmental bodies that would give Northern Ireland's Catholic minority

more political power and would give the overwhelmingly Catholic Irish Republic more influence in northern affairs.

The new structures, including 10 government departments and six North-South cross-border cooperative bodies, would pave the way for the return to local politicians of home-rule powers that have been exercised by the British government since 1972.

The transfer of powers is to begin next month, but the disarmament issue threatens to hock the transition. Monday's dispute focused on weekend comments by Prime Minister Bertie Ahern of the Irish Republic.

RAPE: Appeals Court's Acceptance of 'Denim Defense' Rekindles Furor in Italy

Continued from Page 1

instructor in the small town of Muro Lucano, 100 kilometers (60 miles) from Naples. She claimed that during a driving lesson, he drove her to an isolated spot, forced her to get out and raped her. He claimed that they had consensual sex in the car.

In the first trial, he was convicted of a lesser charge of indecent exposure in a public place. She appealed, and he was convicted on all charges — until the Supreme Court of Appeals threw out the conviction and ordered a new trial, which has yet to be scheduled.

Miss Mussolini helped draft the 1996 law that replaced ones written in the fascist era in the 1930s, under her grand-

father's rule and viewed rape as a "crime of honor" against the victim's family. Among other things, under the old laws a defendant could avoid punishment by marrying the victim or proving that she had had many other sexual experiences.

Miss Mussolini said she was "outraged" by the recent ruling. "That decision seemed like it came from 50 years ago," she said.

"The judges obviously have no sensitivity to the psychology of rape — no understanding of how victims think or how real life works," she added.

Politicians of all parties and virtually all of Italy's columnists and television commentators have echoed the same indignation. Aldo Rizzo, who wrote the

ruling and is one of the five judges who made it, said he was shocked by the reaction, which he said misunderstood the court's intent.

"Of course, saying that a woman can't be raped if she wears jeans is stupid, its ridiculous, its crutinous," Mr. Rizzo said angrily. "That's not what our ruling meant. We merely found that the appeals court had not provided sufficient evidence to uphold the sentence. There were holes in their argument, and it was our duty to point out the inconsistencies."

One inconsistency the judges noted was the fact that the afternoon of the rape, the victim returned to the driving school for a driving theory lesson. But there were other arguments raised by the court that proved just as inflammatory as the jeans.

BRIEFLY

Romanian Miner Given 18-Year Term

BUCHAREST — Romania's supreme court sentenced Miron Cozma, the militant miners' leader, to 18 years in jail on Monday over offenses in 1991 when he spearheaded a march that brought down the government, judicial sources said.

The union chief, who led a new march on Bucharest last month by thousands of miners from the central Jiu Valley, was also convicted of illegal possession of arms and undermining state authority.

Mr. Cozma had been jailed for 18 months over leading a miners' march on Bucharest in 1991, which turned violent and led to the collapse of the government of then-Prime Minister Petre Roman. He was released in June 1998.

Mr. Cozma was kicked out of the far-right Romania Mare Party after the Jan. 18-22 aborted march on the Romanian capital, which ended only after he held personal negotiations with Prime Minister Radu Vasile.

The two men struck a deal that averted a threat by President Emil Constantinescu to declare a state of emergency to prevent the miners from continuing toward Bucharest. (APF)

Baku's Ex-Minister Gets Life Sentence

BAKU, Azerbaijan — The supreme court sentenced the country's former prime minister to life in prison on Monday for his involvement in a 1994 coup attempt.

After a trial that lasted seven months, the court found former Prime Minister Suret Guseinov guilty on about 40 charges, including high treason for leading the coup attempt.

Mr. Guseinov, prime minister at the time of the attempted putsch, briefly seized control of parts of the former Soviet republic. But he fled to Russia when the coup collapsed, and was arrested outside Moscow in 1997 and extradited to Azerbaijan.

The court also found Mr. Guseinov guilty of organizing coup attempts in 1995 and 1996, while he was living in Russia, and of using the army to disperse 1993 protests. He was also convicted of stealing coins of historical value. (AP)

Ulster Peace Plan Faces a Key Test

BELFAST — Northern Ireland's peace process faced a key test Monday as politicians debated the creation of new power-sharing structures, in a process that has been deadlocked over whether to bar Sinn Féin from power until its IRA allies give up their guns.

The Irish Republican Army's guerrillas, who fought for decades against British rule, have so far refused to begin the disarmament called for in the peace agreement last year. Pro-British Protestant Unionist politicians say that the IRA's political wing Sinn Féin should be ruled out of the new administration.

"Without resolution of this issue there will not be sufficient trust within the political process to make that process work effectively," Seamus Mallon of the province's main Catholic nationalist SDLP party told its assembly. (Reuters)

Bonn Attacks Foes Of Citizenship Bill

BONN — The government took aim Monday at the conservative opposition for its campaign against efforts to liberalize Germany's citizenship law after the death of an Algerian asylum-seeker over the weekend.

In a thinly veiled jab at the Christian Democratic Union, Uwe-Karsten Heye, a government spokesman, called on political parties to question whether their policies were contributing to anti-foreigner sentiment.

"We must do everything to ensure that tolerance toward our fellow citizens who are foreigners remains the norm in Germany," he said. "Above all, political parties must examine their own activities to make sure that anti-foreigner sentiment draws no nourishment from them."

The government said it was "horrified" at the death of Omar Ben Nani, 28, in the eastern town of Guben, south of Berlin, on Saturday. (AP)

APR 20 1999

THE GREAT WALL

Germanian Min
Glen 10-10-10

[illegible]

It would be
difficult to
conduct a
survey of
this type.

Baker's Ex-Miss Gets Life Sentence

They (the press) want to know what I think about the situation in the country. I think it is a very serious situation. I think it is a very serious situation. I think it is a very serious situation.

1 Extra Point
 1 Extra Key

[illegible]

1. How many people
 2. are there in your
 3. family?

The first of these is the
 fact that the majority of
 the population is of
 African descent. This
 is a result of the
 slave trade which
 brought millions of
 Africans to the Americas
 over the centuries. The
 second factor is the
 influence of the Catholic
 Church, which has been
 a dominant force in
 the social and political
 life of the continent. The
 third factor is the
 legacy of colonialism, which
 has left a deep imprint
 on the economies and
 societies of the Americas.

SECRET

THE
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NYSE under the symbol **DOH**

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TO HELP REDUCE THE POTENTIAL DANGER TO A DRIVER IN A FRONT-END ACCIDENT / THE FIRST CHILD
RESTRAINT SYSTEM TO HELP PROTECT SMALLER PASSENGERS IN THE EVENT OF AN ACCIDENT / THE
FIRST MAINTENANCE-FREE BATTERY THAT NEVER REQUIRES CHECKING OR THE ADDITION OF WATER /
THE FIRST FOUR-WHEEL DISC BRAKES FOR INCREASED BRAKING PERFORMANCE / THE FIRST
SUCCESSFUL SIGNAL-SEEKING RADIO TO HELP LOCATE RADIO STATIONS / THE FIRST TURN SIGNALS
TO HELP ONE DRIVER COMMUNICATE WITH ANOTHER / THE FIRST SOUND-ON-DASH CAR RADIO
TO GIVE DRIVERS A LITTLE TRAVELING MUSIC / THE FIRST TILT STEERING COLUMN FOR GREATER
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Let's Focus on Public Morality

By Gary Hart

KITREDGE, Colorado — Since the same forces that produced America's national nightmare are all still at work — an independent inquisitor as a fourth branch of government, a 1960s-inspired battle over the bounds of private morality, the co-optation of the political parties by cultural forces, the expansion of press "scrutiny" into public officials' private lives and, it must be said, the frailty, error and "some would say sinfulness" of human beings — it is premature to hope that the nightmarish is over.

So long as these conditions exist, American society will continue to devour its leadership. Many Americans are angry right now because they believe that neither the president nor his prosecutors and defenders have placed the national interest above personal and partisan interests.

Although some insist on judging the president on how he manages his personal life, history will judge him on how he has or has not helped manage Russia's transition to democracy, reformed the military or prepared America for the next century crisis.

The intense focus on private morality comes at the expense of focusing on public

morality. Sex is more intriguing, more tractable, more commercially rewarding than an issue like hungry children or homeless youths or inadequate health care for the elderly or global warming — or any other symptoms of America's warped social priorities.

It is also distressing that talented Americans reject public service because it means running the gauntlet of hazing now required of candidates and of nominees for appointive office. Added to the corrupting influence of campaign fund-raising and the absence of civility in the public forum, the evaporation of private lives is too much to ask people of stature and dignity to accept.

The United States may be on its way to having a corps of public officials whose sexual report cards are spotless but who accept millions of dollars in special interest campaign money and callously neglect the needs of the poorest Americans.

In an effort to combat excessive intrusiveness, some prospective candidates for national office, including Senator John McCain of Arizona and Governor George

Bush of Texas, have recently let it be known that they will refuse to answer certain personal questions. As some of us know, however, this is no assurance against surreptitious surveillance or media feeding frenzies.

The First Amendment gives no one the license to use the "character issue" to destroy character. Character is demonstrated over a lifetime, and nowhere more tellingly than in a public official's willingness to put principle above career, even if that principle is to say "It's none of your business."

It will be decades, if ever, before we fully understand the public's response to the impeachment drama, especially the disparity between the president's favorable job rating and the substantially lower level of public trust in him.

Some say it is simply a reflection of a booming economy. But I think the American people may be saying: We know the difference between what is interesting and entertaining — public officials' personal lives — and what is important — our children's future.

American society has been forced to confront paradox: the paradox of public leadership and private fallibility, the paradox of cultural con-



Los Angeles Times Syndicate

Hanging Up the Phone On Fast-Food Media

By Marvin Fast

WASHINGTON — I do not remember exactly when it first occurred — the constant ringing in my ears — but I am almost sure it began at night. I know this because it was dark outside and the ringing woke me.

Terribly sorry to bother you," the caller from the BBC said. "But we'd like to

MEANWHILE

interview your boss this morning — 6 A.M. precisely, your time."

Years from now, all of us in Washington will have our varied perspectives and memories of the impeachment of President Bill Clinton. Some will remember grand floor speeches, votes or legal rulings. Me, I will always remember the sound of a phone. The curse of the Capitol Hill press secretary.

I initially thought my experience as a former reporter, and my nine years on the staff of a prominent member of Congress, would prepare me for the avalanche of calls seeking interviews with, quotes from or talk show ap-

pearances by my boss. I was wrong.

I would have been better prepared for this spectacle by a job answering the phone at a take-out place during halftime of the Super Bowl. In fact, the flood of calls seemed to me to be a sort of fast-food approach to journalism — drive up, order what you need and then hastily speed away.

I doubt many of these new-found friends will continue to call now that the circus is leaving town. But it was fun while it lasted. After all, it is not every day that you hear from virtually all the major networks and news outlets. (Actually, at the time, I think it was every day.)

But the real eye opener was not so much that the networks competed against each other; it was that individual programs from the same network competed — often ferociously — for a particular guest.

And what was a press secretary's reward at the end of another long day of being called countless times by the same network, asking if my boss could come on its various programs? A story on how senators were crawling over each other to get on the air.

But my favorite ritual was the walk through the Russell Rotunda, where networks did round-the-clock interviews with factory-like precision. Taking a member of Congress through the area was akin to waving a salmon in front of hungry Alaskan bears.

Still, years from now when my grandchildren ask what I remember most from this historic moment, it will not be speeches or votes. It will be the ringing. Reporters ringing for a quote. Networks ringing for an interview. Angry constituents ringing me at home to vent, since I left my number on my machine at work.

You will pardon me if the next time we impeach a president, I am hard to reach.

The writer, press secretary for Senator Christopher Dodd, Democrat of Connecticut, contributed this comment to The New York Times.

The Menace of the Teletubbies, Fifth-Columnists for a Subversive Lifestyle

By Jeff MacGregor

NEW YORK — The Reverend Jerry Falwell, the television evangelist, has suggested that Tinky Winky, a bag-carrying character on the popular children's show "Teletubbies," is gay. An article in his *National Liberty Journal* noted that Tinky Winky, in addition to carrying a "purse," was purple, "the gay pride color," and had an antenna shaped like a triangle, "the gay pride symbol."

Mr. Falwell contends that the "subtle depictions" are intentional and constitute a role model that could be "damaging to the moral lives of children."

CONFIDENTIAL INTERNAL REPORT: READ AND DESTROY!

To: The Reverend Jerry Falwell
From: Special Detectives Hunt, Wordsworth and Peck
Re: Teletubby Surveillance/Children's Television Investigation
Pursuant to client's request for char-

acter profiles, loyalty/liability cross-checks and deep background information on "Teletubbies," our investigation yielded data as follows:

• Teletubby "Tinky Winky": Purple in color, subject Teletubby is observed to carry a purse, yet speaks in a man's voice. Subject antenna triangular in shape.

Interpretation: Extensive investigation reveals purple to be the color of "gay pride." The Tinky Winky purse is doubtless a feminizing icon deployed as a gender-confusing subterfuge. Subject Teletubby also speaks with vague British accent. Oscar Wilde lived in Britain.

Conclusion: Subject Teletubby "Tinky Winky" is obviously the subliminal spokesperson for the "homosexual" or "gay" lifestyle.

• Teletubby "Po": Red in color, with circular antenna.
Interpretation: Red has long been the symbolic color of global communism.

The name "Po" could be taken from the river in Italy (a hotbed of failed quasi-Communist policies), or derived from the name of the Cambodian madman, Pol Pot. The circular antenna represents the circular arguments that underlie the tenets of Marxist-Leninist social and economic theory.

Conclusion: Subject Teletubby "Po" is the subliminal spokesperson for a resurgent international Communist revolution.

Alternate Conclusion: "Po" might be a reference to Edgar Allan Poe, a notorious 19th-century writer, just like Oscar Wilde. (See above.)

• Teletubby "Laa-Laa": Bright yellow/orange in color, antenna shaped like pig's tail.
Interpretation: "Laa-Laa" is an obvious reference to Los Angeles (often

called "La-La Land" by gossip columnists and other waggish hipsters). Her bright citrus colors are an ironic nod to the wholesome crops of lemons and oranges that once flourished in the pious San Fernando Valley and Hollywood Hills, but that have since been replaced by the degenerate entertainment industry.

Conclusion: "Laa-Laa" is the spokesperson for the National Academy of Motion Picture Arts and Sciences or the Screen Actors Guild, and is subliminally encouraging our children to seek work in the entertainment industry.

• Teletubby "Dipsy": Green in color, subject Teletubby has a straw coming out of his head.

Interpretation: Looks like a giant frozen daiquiri.
Conclusion: Blender drinks are popular among supporters of alternative lifestyles.

That these Teletubbies take their marching orders from speakers that rise up from the ground (a metaphor delineating Orwellian mind control?) is bad enough. That they live in a kind of dome under a windmill that spins out a spiral of what look like bright white crystals should be reason enough for investigation by state authorities. That they do so without the benefit of marriage (or clothes!) is inexcusable.

We therefore conclude that your instinct about the true nature of the Teletubbies is correct: They are a subversive force for international evil, operating in league with a global cabal of gay television executives and purse manufacturers, bent on nothing less than world domination.

Our bill follows under separate cover.

Mr. MacGregor, a writer in New York, contributed this comment to The New York Times.

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

Impeachment's End

As an Italian, I have often been disappointed and demoralized by the low level of political discourse in my country. But what a relief! After the Clinton affair and the incredible performance of the American political class, nothing in the world's political environment, not only Italy's, will look the same.

I must admit I am amused and confused, but also scared: If this is the intellectual level of the political class of the nation that should lead our globalized planet, I see dark clouds on the horizon.

ALESSIO PONZ DE LEON, Stockholm.

The headline "Lewinsky Testimony: Managers Meet Their Match" (Feb. 6) reminded me how outmatched the managers' advocacy skills had been in prosecuting this bizarre charge. The matter being one of such political self-interest to them, they should have remembered the lawyer's admonition that an attorney represents a fool when he represents himself.

CHRISTIAN CAMPBELL, Salzburg, Austria.

At the end of the impeachment saga, I would like to paraphrase Winston Churchill by saying, "Never have so few managed to dwarf such a big nation in such a short time." But life goes on and history, too.

If the United States is to play the role of superpower, then its politicians should allow its president to run the country and to solve problems as best he can.

In this coming century, we, the people of the world will depend on it.

P.J. PANAYOTOPOULOS, Athens.

On Zimbabwe

Regarding "Zimbabwe's Broken Promise" (Editorial, Feb. 13):

The contempt for the rule of law by President Robert Mugabe and the persistent harassment of his country's media are matters of grave concern.

The country's trade unions and social movements have been battered over the past several months.

Mr. Mugabe's condoning of the military's role in the detention and torture of the journalists Mark Chavunduka and

Ray Choto in defiance of the Supreme Court reflects a bizarre paranoia.

The slide into authoritarianism is gathering momentum with the detention of Ilbo Mandaza, editor of the Zimbabwe Mirror. Mr. Mandaza is a veteran of the Zimbabwe liberation movement, a former high-ranking public servant and an intellectual of international repute.

Mr. Mugabe's excesses have serious repercussions for the stability of the region, and it is imperative that the Southern African Development Community and the South African government not idly stand by while the crisis in Zimbabwe mounts.

KIRU NAIKOO, Westville, South Africa.

Bush's Compassion

Regarding "A Compassionate Conservative Embraces the Art of Emoting" (Memorandum, Feb. 10) by George F. Will:

Mr. Will warns us against walking in lockstep behind "the armies of compassion" that Governor George Bush is leading across Texas. Mr. Will was alerted to the dangers

of compassion by a visit Mr. Bush paid to a juvenile justice facility where a boy asked him, "What do you think of me?" Mr. Bush thought the boy was asking him, "Is there a place for me in society?" The governor's compassionate attitude implies that there is, or should be.

Mr. Will sharply rebukes this "politics of pathos." He says that the "honest answer" would be: "Young man, I don't know you, and it is not the business of government to get to know everyone personally. Society would be suffocated, and individual liberty jeopardized, by a government that tried to."

Mr. Will's honest answer simply insults the questioner without answering his question. A quick put-down like that would prevent the boy from understanding that the government represents people like him as well as people like Mr. Will. There are a lot of kids in trouble in the United States. An honest answer to Mr. Will is: "I don't know you either, old man, but boys in trouble define our society more than you do."

E. LOUISE WHITE, Geneva.

HEAVY WATER AND OTHER STORIES

By Martin Amis, 208 pages.

\$21. Harmony Books.

Reviewed by Michiko Kakutani

WITH his last two major novels, "The Information" (1995) and "London Fields" (1990), Martin Amis persuasively established himself as one of his generation's most ambitious and technically daring writers: a writer who has articulated his distinctively dark, dyspeptic view of the modern world with a Nabokovian love of language and a post-modernist's fondness for narrative play.

Although this book, a collection of nine stories written over the last two decades, intermittently displays those gifts, the volume is basically a case of a skilled writer lazily using his sleight of hand to toss off what are pure exercises in craft. Two of the more annoying stories are nothing but extended jokes, predicated upon a not so clever reversal of roles.

"Career Move" depicts a world in which poets are highly paid Hollywood hacks and screenwriters are impoverished artists who publish their obscure work in little magazines. "Straight Fiction" similarly posits a world in which gay and straight people have switched roles: The heterosexual minority finds its ranks being decimated by a mysterious illness known as "the straight plague," while the homosexual right mocks heterosexuals as "reproducers," "bear-

ers," "spawners" and "fertilizers." This story not only feels incongruously comic, given the seriousness of the AIDS crisis, but also forced, as though Amis were straining to expand a slight and silly premise into a magazine-length story.

Indeed, both tales bring to mind Amis's unfortunate 1991 novella, "Time's Arrow," which recounted the story of a former Nazi doctor turned American suburbanite in reverse chronological sequence: All three devote pages and pages of expendable sophomoric humor to the cause of making one obvious philosophical point.

Other stories in this volume are equally forgettable. "Danton's Death," a grisly little tale about a man awaiting his execution, — meant, no doubt, as a kind of send-up of "Danton's Death" — feels like a perfunctory creative writing class assignment.

The title story, "Heavy Water," which chronicles a sea cruise undertaken by an aging woman and her middle-aged, mentally challenged son, is little but an assemblage of descriptive effects meant to showcase the body language Amis can put on words.

"The Coincidence of the Arts," an O'Henryesque tale about the relationships an English painter develops with a hostile would-be novelist and his seductive wife in Manhattan, is equally contrived, but it is enlivened by Amis's unforgiving eye for detail and his ferocious gift for dialogue. The reader can see the story's ironic ending coming a

mile off, but does not really mind, so engagingly does Amis put its raucous elements into play.

The remaining two stories in this volume, "State of England" and "What Happened to Me on My Holiday," both of which originally appeared in *The New Yorker*, are even better. In these tales, Amis not only dazzles the reader with his verbal pyrotechnics but also uses them to say something, to create people with genuine conflicts and dilemmas, characters who vividly reveal themselves to be more than collections of satiric traits.

In "State of England," Amis chronicles the efforts of a former bouncer named Big Mal to come to terms with his estranged wife, their son and his old partner. He gives us a sad-funny portrait of a man caught between two worlds, trying to reconcile his rough-neck past with the changing England he sees around him, where new rules of etiquette and gender obtain.

Told phonetically in nasal, childish tones, "What Happened to Me on My Holiday" may initially strike the reader as a mannered experiment in style, but it subtly evolves into something very deeper: an 11-year-old's stumbling, stammering efforts to tell the story of a young friend's death, and his own apprehension of the meaning of mortality and loss. It is a story that points up the futility of so many of the other tales in this volume, even as it underscores the feats of which the copiously talented Amis is capable.

New York Times Service

CROSSWORD

ACROSS

- 1 Wild (plot's problem)
2 Comic actor Jacques
3 All
4 How to play a dip
5 Composer's work
6 17 Who's — of One's Own
7 Pencil-keeping force in Bosnia
8 Not strict
9 Intuitive fact
10 There but for the grace of God

DOWN

- 11 Copacabana site
12 Westerns
13 Small tropical islands
14 Artist record
15 All
16 Elmhurst's boyhood home
17 Biblical sin city
18 Klutz
19 Woods on the fairway
20 Paramaribo is its capital
21 Achy
22 Hells
23 "Paper Roses" singer Missis
24 Strands, as by a winter storm

ACROSS

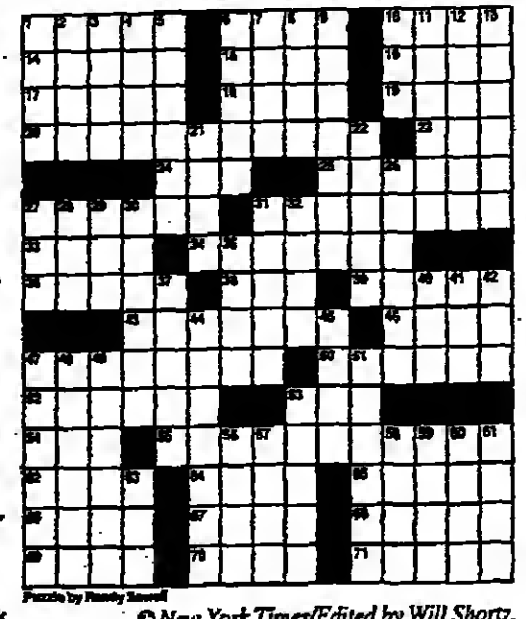
- 25 Just ducky
26 Speed: Abbr.
27 Rural route
28 Pub stock
29 Cat's meat
30 First
31 Grandparents' stories, e.g.
32 English essayist
33 Prince Valiant's wife
34 Name on which ancient authors were taken
35 Brother, aunt, etc. Abbr.
36 Southernmost part of Arabia

DOWN

- 37 Smelling residue
38 Long lunch?
39 Son of Seth
40 On
41 The Joker's portrayal on TV
42 Komo Sabu's abode
43 On — with a Bachelor's edit
44 U-235 or C-14, e.g.
45 — rafter
46 Orbital high point
47 Prior to
48 One who makes a scene?

ACROSS

- 49 Actress Bonet
50 Lacks, in brief
51 Babel in one word
52 Neon, e.g.
53 "Shine a Little Love" rock group
54 Undoubtedly
55 Newstands
56 Laughing
57 Code word for A
58 Seethe
59 Orchestra output
60 Sticky stuff
61 Sea eagle
62 Badly chopped
63 Trampled
64 "The Hound of the Baskervilles" locale
65 Composites exactly with
66 Yellow and black cat
67 Salad stalk
68 Bridge between buildings
69 Library volume
70 Congo river
71 Catch but good
72 Part
73 City near Provo
74 Actress Carrion
75 Gender



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See our International Franchises every Wednesday in The Internet

CHESS

By Robert Byrne

GARRY KASPAROV started 1999 with a brilliant reversal of his misfortune last year. Then, he failed to win any of the super-tournaments, preferring to fritter away his time playing exhibition chess, which, no matter how well accomplished, should not be the primary occupation of the world champion. But in the traditional elite Hoo-goven International Tournament in Wijk-aan-Zee, the Netherlands, he was superb.

Here is how Kasparov contested his final victory, against Peter Svidler. The Classical Variation, 5 Qb3 against the Gruenfeld Defense, puts pressure on the black center, knocks out the black

toehold there after 5...d6 6 Qe4 and seizes terrain after 6...O-O 7 e4. Svidler countered with the tortuous Hungarian System, 7...a6 8 e5 b5 9 Qb3 Nd7.

The pawn thrust with 10 e6! has been looked upon with disfavor for the last 10 years, but Kasparov is not one to be intimidated by entrenched opinion.

After 10...f6, however, he refrained from the unproductive 11 Qe6 Kh8 12 Qe4 Nb6 13 Bf4 Nc6 14 O-O-O Bg4 15 d5 Bf3 16 g4 Na5 17 Be5 Na6, preferring a permanent sacrifice with 11 Be3! The doubled e pawns made Black's continued development difficult.

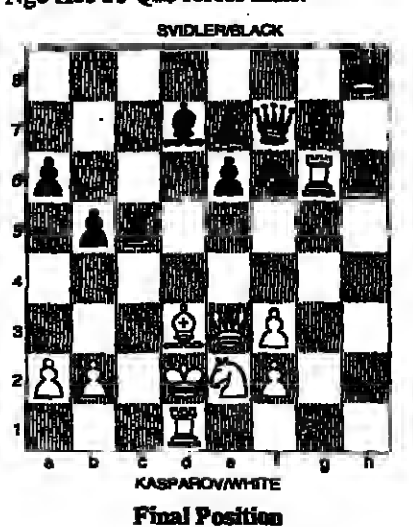
After 13 h5!?, Svidler prudently held back from 13...g4 14 Rh5 Nd4 15 Nd4 Bf6 16 Rd1 Qe8 17 Rg5 Bg7 18 Bb4 Rf6 19 Rd3 Rg6 20 Rg6 h2 21 Bg7 Kg7 22 Rg3 because the black defenders could not come to the aid of their king.

With 13...Rf3 14 g4 Nd4, Svidler counted on getting action for his pieces in a situation where the doubled f pawns might limit the attack of the white pieces. But Kasparov's 15 Rd1! thwarted him. Svidler could not play 15...Nf3 16 Ke2 Nd4 because 17 Bb4 Bd4 18 hg hg 19 Qc2 Kg7 20 Rg1 wins.

With 19...Qg6, Svidler got a pawn, but Kasparov got it back with 22 Nd4, which also opened lines for his attack.

Kasparov's 28 Rg6 threatened 29 Rh6! Bb6 30 Qb6 Kf8 31 Kd2!, when there would be no defense against 32 Rg1.

After 31 Qe3!, Svidler gave up. If 31...Rh5, then 32 Rd1 Ne8 33 Qe4 Qg8 (33...Rf5 34 Nd4 Rf4 35 Kg7! Qg7 36 Qf4 Qg1 37 Qf8 Qg8 38 Qb6 Qh7 39 Qh7mate and if 33...Nf6, then 34 Qa8 Qe8 35 Qe8 Ne8 36 Nf4 Rh2 37 Ne6 Be6 38 Re6 Bf6 39 Ra6 wins) 34 Nf4 Rh2 35 Rg7! Ng7 36 Nf6 Kh7 37 Ne7 wins; if, in the line, 33...Kg8, then 34 Nf4 Rh4 35 Rg7! Ng7 36 Qh7 Kf8 37 Nf6 Ke8 38 Qh8 forces mate.



Final Position

A Comfort In Modernity

American Designers Shoot for the Year 2000

By Suzy Menkes
International Herald Tribune

NEW YORK — He wore polar white — a rubbery coat with padded cotton pants; she wore glacial white — a filmy cloud of a slipcover floating over a down coat. Separately — except in their fashion spirit — they walked down the mirrored runway into the new millennium.

American designers have opened the international season for fall-winter 2000, showing back-to-back women's and men's clothes for the first time. That underlines the essence of current style. After a century defined by tension between the genders, both sexes have reached an equilibrium in forward-looking but unthreatening clothes.

Donna Karan had the words for it: "finding comfort in modernity." Her cyberspace looks for men and women melded techno and natural fibers — literally in the case of a pony-skin jacket bonded with fleece or cotton laminated with rainproof resin.

The overall feeling of Sunday's DKNY collection was of active clothes in a comfort zone. Far from the angular space-age style envisioned by designers in the 1960s, when the stiff silhouette orbited the body, these were cuddly clothes using stretch materials, techno synthetics, laser cutting and industrial fastenings.

"The oneness of the collection seemed so natural because technology came to menswear first and grew naturally into women's," said Karan, who was front of house at her show, dressed in padded pants and a white T-shirt. To take her bow, she put on one of her slipcover coats, with an envelope interior for a down lining.

The fact that DKNY is not the main line in which the designer makes her big statement of the season seemed to help Karan. She took an easy look at how familiar American sportswear should move fast forward. Function and utility are the key, with streamlined double-face jackets, often cut longer, poncho-style, at the back and with funnel collars, zippers, Velcro or magnet fastenings. Contrasts of texture came in the dry- and wet-look fabrics and splashes of color, as a vivid pink sweater or orange piping on the pale palette.

Much of this had been absorbed from the fashion ether: the pioneering felted wrap skirts and drape-and-fold dresses from Japanese designers; the volume-without-weight silhouettes from Helmut Lang; Prada's utility chic. But Karan had the confidence to make DKNY her own look — accessible, practical and with an unpretentious ease.

After an Italian invasion two years ago, it is now the turn of the Brits.

The idea that American designers should kick off the international season was also pioneered by Lang, who shows on Tuesday. After an experiment last season, a definitive decision has been made to precede the European shows, although a few dissenters, including Bill Blass and Geoffrey Beene, will run in April.

The result is an internationalization of the New York season that is luring European designers. Although critical success in Paris remains the holy grail, being known in America gives commercial consecration.

"This is where the business is — this is why American fashion is as it is — not just things to get great reviews and sell eight pieces," said Fern Mallis, executive director of Council of Fashion Designers of America and the moving force in centralizing the New York shows in tents in Bryant Park.

"We didn't go out marketing the shows to the international design community, but we have always believed that New York was a fashion capital," says Mallis in response to fevered stories that Seventh on Sixth, as the shows are known, has lured designers away from European centers.

After an Italian invasion two years ago, it is now the turn of the Brits. Vivienne Westwood, who opened a downtown store last week, will show on the New York calendar on Wednesday. Tomasz Starzewski, whose current claim to fame is that he dressed Camilla Parker Bowles in a discreet black ensemble for her photo-op outing with Prince Charles, showed his elegant society styles on Sunday. To the slender shapes in tactile, luxurious fabrics were added the designer's first menswear collection, in equally elegant taste — give or take a wild Mongolian lamb coat.

What of the up-and-coming American designers — always in short supply in a city that is more interested in the bottom line than a new line?

In a young designer show, the stand-out was William Calvert, whose graceful cutting and attention to detail included bright-colored pocket linings and gray cashmere inset on the satin wedding dress.

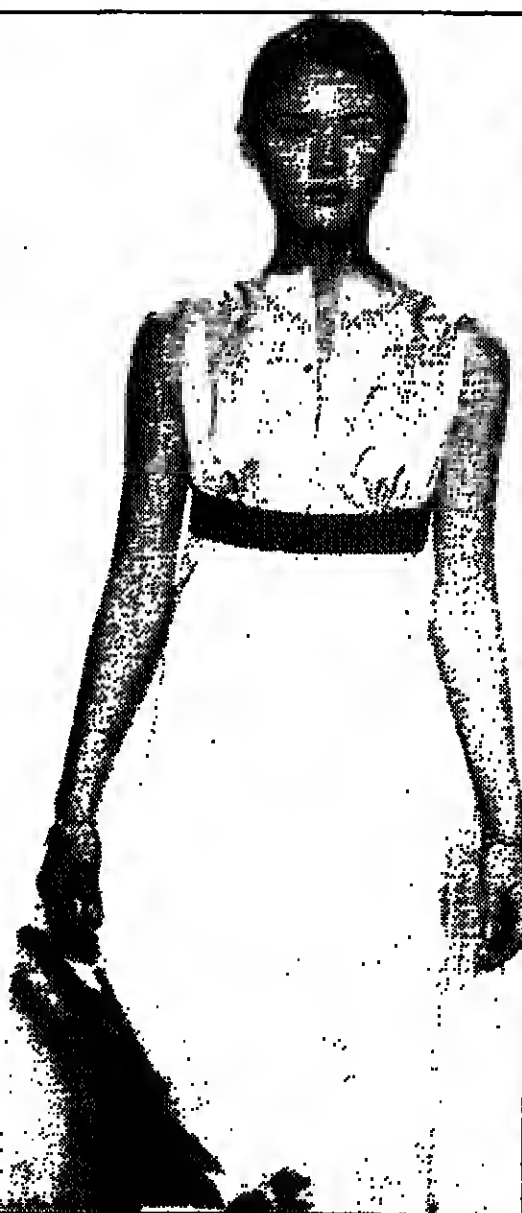
One designer has set her beady eye on the new millennium. Diane Von Furstenberg included in her display of signature wrap dresses, with wicker-chair patterns inspired by Casablanca or Swiss Miss embroidered cardigans, a "life vest" designed as a Sony high-tech command center. The designer called it "For the wired woman." Or, presumably, man.



From DKNY by Donna Karan, his wax-coated nylon jacket with padded cotton pants and her funnel-collared zippered jacket.



William Calvert's cashmere inset on satin gown.



Diane Von Furstenberg and her millennium jacket.

Jade, From Art To Jewelry

By Suzy Menkes
International Herald Tribune

NEW YORK — "I wanted to embrace America," Jade Jagger said as she laid out emerald, aquamarine, and pink-topaz rings, plaques with Indian motifs, and stones strung on circus-colored thongs, along a bed of black gravel — against a backdrop of arty photographs of herself by her boyfriend, Dan Macmillan.

It all added up to a very New York happening for the 25-year-old artist-turned-designer, whose fashion jewelry, with its riveting of beads and striking color combinations, is already on sale at Barneys New York and stylish European stores.

"I'm not part of the fashion world — but I realize that there is a collective consciousness," says Jagger, who is a muse and consultant to the British designer Matthew Williamson. She wore his flower-decorated top and flimsy tangerine skirt to her party on Sunday to launch the fine jewelry, while friends and fans favored Jagger's own design of a teeny pasmina halter top with appliquéd beads on the bodice.

The actress Liv Tyler, the artist's daughter Lola Schnabel, the rocker's son Marlon Richards and Jagger's mother, Bianca (wearing a jet-and-crystal beaded waterfall necklace), were among those who showed up at the Chelsea art space hung with Damien Hirst's coin dot painting.

Jagger's love affair with India started when she "went with my father, when I was about 9." But, as she says, the jewelry is influenced by other things, with a touch of punk in the jewel-studded dog-collar chokers and the juxtaposition of traditional emerald-cut stones with modern settings. An average price of a spiral gold ring or gold wire and gem bracelet is under \$1,000 with the prices rising for the more precious stones.

Why jewelry? "I came to jewelry from painting," she says. "They kept saying that my paintings were so decorative. I wanted to get out there — and I really felt it was an opportunity to be more creative."

Christopher Moore/Andrew Thomas
Jade Jagger, artist-turned-designer, in her gold spiral necklace.



Comme des Garçons: Light at the End of a Chelsea Tunnel

By Suzy Menkes
International Herald Tribune

NEW YORK — Outside, on a Chelsea street, the walls are grimy brick and a faded sign for auto repairs reads "Heavenly Body Works."

But follow the shiny aluminum tunnel pierced in the wall, and you find yourself in a retail wonderland — 5,000 square feet (465 square meters) of dazzling white space, divided into undulating modules, where the clothes shelter in a modernistic labyrinth.

Rei Kawakubo of Comme des Garçons has pioneered the first shopping outpost in Chelsea, following the run-down industrial area's recent influx of art galleries.

On West 26th Street, on the Hudson River side, the new Comme des Garçons store, which opened last week, is a monument to one designer's uncompromising vision. "It's the symbolization of Rei's pioneering spirit," says Adrian Joffe, Kawakubo's husband and partner. "Most people think we're crazy — it's the end of the earth. But we hope it will become a destination for shoppers."

For its design concept alone, the store would be a magnet for the discerning.

The aluminum tunnel, made in a shipyard in Cornwall, in England, is hammered and fretted into textures

that refract the light. Inside, the all-white surfaces belie the variety of finishes, from the hard, smooth sales counter in white-enameled steel, to the wall of corrugated soundproof foam, behind a five-meter stainless-steel perfume bar.

For a designer once known for any color as long as it was black, Comme's clothes are now varied: men's jackets encrusted with interior frills; fresh striped shirts; jewel-colored velvets; and the metallic inserts on designs by Junya Watanabe, a Kawakubo protégé.

Original products include knits in Escorial, a yarn from New Zealand sheep whose curly coats have supposedly produced the "new cashmere."

The clients at the new shop are the folk who cruise or own the newly installed art galleries in the area.

The store's location is as important as its innovative design and merchandise.

Joffe points out that when Comme opened downtown on Wooster Street 14 years ago, SoHo was still an artists' colony of bohemian lofts, bistros and a smattering of galleries. By the time Comme moved out to make way for Prada last year, the area was designer central, with everyone from Louis Vuitton to the Gap in residence.

Chelsea has a long way to go before it becomes a new fashion mecca, but Comme's clients are the folk who cruise or own the newly installed art galleries.

"We wanted to move because it is uncharted territory," says Joffe. "It is an expression of our Gypsy spirit."



Rei Kawakubo and the aluminum entrance tunnel to her new Comme des Garçons store in Chelsea.

Clear Sailing

Lagardere Agrees to Pay

PARIS — Lagardere SA agreed to pay a 15 percent share of the costs of a new airport terminal in France to the state-owned Air France. The agreement, announced by the French Finance Ministry, would give the state-owned airline a 15 percent share of the profits of the new terminal, becoming the largest shareholder.

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Battling Micro

WASHINGTON — The U.S. Justice Department and 10 American states are involved in a complex policy battle about what sort of aggressive actions to seek against Microsoft.

On the one hand, the government wants to break up the company. On the other, the government wants to break up the company. On the one hand, the government wants to break up the company. On the other, the government wants to break up the company.

Thinking Ahead

New Curren

By Reginald Dale
International Herald Tribune

WASHINGTON — Suddenly, national currencies are no longer sacred. Argentina is thinking of replacing its peso with the U.S. dollar, while a Canadian industrial products "Canada dollar" will disappear in its lifetime.

Europeans in 11 countries are trading in their once-cherished national currencies for the euro, and others around the world are wondering whether to follow in their footsteps.

There is talk of a South American single currency, even of "dollarizing" the Western hemisphere. Serious people have given thought to a euro-Asian single currency based on the yen.

In France, Germany and Japan, government officials want to "stabilize" exchange rates among the dollar, the euro and yen, in a kind of global managed float. Idealists talk of a single world currency one day.

Such fanciful ideas are not all new. French economists proposed a common European currency in something like its modern form in the mid-19th century, and Panama adopted the dollar in 1904. Dollars are already accepted for ordinary purchases at airports, and in quite a few countries, around the world.

But two recent developments — the link of the euro and the Asian financial crisis — have helped to shake up old ways of thinking. The successful debut of the euro at the beginning of this year has broken a number of national psychological taboos.

Many Germans once deeply attached to their beloved Deutsche mark are now demanding that the introduction

Cross Rates

	\$	£	SF	Yen	Cl
London (at New York)	1.6285	2.1355	166.13	1.631	
Paris	114.05	130.14	160.52	26.4	
Frankfurt	149.76	242.91	195.04	1.507	
Stockholm	14.23	2.112		1.23	8.99
Oslo	11.28	0.5495	1.564	129.21	1.471
Stockholm	1.263	0.9324	1.9724	154.56	2.043

Source: Reuters, 10:00 a.m. EST, Feb. 15, 1999. All rates are for 1 U.S. dollar unless otherwise noted. All rates are for 1 U.S. dollar unless otherwise noted. All rates are for 1 U.S. dollar unless otherwise noted.

Very briefly:

• The United States on Monday bailed a decision at the World Trade Organization that maintained March 1 as the date on which barriers to trade in global financial services are to be reduced. The U.S. trade representative, Charlene Barshefsky, also vowed to take steps to ensure full implementation of a U.S.-Japanese accord on liberalizing the Japanese insurance market, an agreement that is now part of the WTO pact.

government bonds the bank bought on the secondary market.

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The data in the list above is the data supplied by the fund groups to Standard & Poor's Municipal SA. It is collected and referenced into the list below being transmitted to the IHT. Standard & Poor's Municipal and the IHT do not warrant the quality or accuracy of the list, the data or the performance of ideas of the Fund Groups and will not be liable for the loss of the Fund Group in any event. The list is not and shall not be deemed to be an offer by the IHT or Standard & Poor's Municipal to sell securities or investments of any kind. Investments can fail as well as rise. Past performance does not guarantee future success. It is advised to seek advice from a qualified independent advisor.

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EUROPE

Credit Suisse Expands U.S. Assets Role

ZURICH — Credit Suisse Group said Monday it had agreed to buy Warburg Pincus Asset Management Inc. for \$650 million to try to expand in the United States.

The acquisition of the asset-management arm of Warburg Pincus & Co., which is expected to be completed by mid-year, will lift Credit Suisse's assets under management by more than \$22 billion, to \$680 billion, the bank said.

Credit Suisse and other banks are reducing their exposure to risky businesses such as emerging markets trading and focusing more on asset management and private banking, where earnings are more predictable, Merrill Lynch & Co. recently paid about \$5 billion for Mercury Asset Management Group PLC, the biggest fund manager in Britain, to create the world's No. 3 asset manager.

"This is a step in the right direction" for Credit Suisse, said Regina Anhorn, an analyst at Lombard Odier & Cie in Geneva. "Warburg Pincus has a very good reputation and a strong distribution network."

The latest round of asset-management acquisitions is also being driven by banks seeking profits as European and Asian governments overhaul their pension systems, forcing people to save for their own retirements.

Credit Suisse and Warburg Pincus Asset Management formed a distribution alliance last June to market mutual funds in the United States. The combination will give Credit Suisse \$56 billion of U.S. assets under management.

As part of the agreement, Credit Suisse said, it also took a 19.9 percent "passive minority equity stake" in Warburg Pincus's private equity arm, which manages more than \$7 billion in equity.

Volvo and Navistar Keep Quiet on Takeover Talk

BLOOMSBURG, Sweden — Volvo AB and Navistar International Corp. declined to comment Monday on a published report that the Swedish company was considering buying the U.S. truckmaker.

The acquisition of Navistar, which has annual sales of \$7.9 billion, would double Volvo's share of the North American truck market. The Financial Times said in an article Monday that cited unidentified sources close to the talks.

Volvo had 11.5 percent of the U.S. market for heavy trucks in 1998. Volvo, which agreed to sell its car division to Ford Motor Co. last month for \$6.5 billion, wants to expand its trucks, buses and construction equipment businesses. It unexpectedly bought a 14 percent voting stake in Scania AB, its Swedish rival, last month and said it wanted to buy the rest.

"We showed, through our purchase of Scania shares, that we want to take part in the restructuring of the industry," said Mats Edenberg, a Volvo spokesman. But he added: "We can't comment on speculation."

Navistar, which makes international-brand trucks, has reorganized its truck and engine-making business in the past eight years to meet increased competition from bigger companies, such as DaimlerChrysler AG's Freightliner, the world's largest truckmaker, and Paccar Inc.

"Navistar would be a good deal — it seems to be undervalued from a European perspective," said Marc Goguet, an analyst at BNP Paribas in Paris. Navistar shares are trading at 5.8 times earnings before interest and taxes, compared with an industry average of 9.5, he said.

Navistar shares have almost quadrupled in the past two years, as the company has benefited from strong demand for medium-sized trucks, school buses and heavy trucks. The company has said it has been unable to keep up with demand for heavy trucks.

Based in Chicago, Navistar was previously a diversified industrial company called International Harvester, though a recession and six-month strike by the United Auto Workers union sent it to the edge of bankruptcy in 1980. It changed its name to Navistar International after selling its construction equipment and agricultural equipment divisions.

Navistar has a market value of about \$2.33 billion and employs 17,600 people at plants in the United States, Mexico and Brazil.

Stark's Component Ledger, a Chicago-based automotive industry publication, reported that Volvo was also in talks to buy Mack Trucks Inc., the American unit of Renault SA of France. The Financial Times reported that the Swedish company was more interested in Navistar.

"Our strategy is not to sell Mack," said a spokeswoman at Renault's RVI truck unit. Analysts agreed that a sale of Mack was unlikely.

"Mack is already more profitable than Renault's European operations," said Mr. Goguet. "Renault has said in the past 10 months that it won't sell its truck business."

Volvo has said that it was looking at several truck companies.

Volvo B-shares closed at 219.50 kroner (\$27.70) down 2 kroner in Stockholm. Navistar shares rose \$2, to \$35.25, on Friday. U.S. markets were closed for a holiday Monday.

partnerships for noncore activities.

"Hydro has a very, very difficult environment to work in," said Susan Graham, an analyst at Merrill Lynch in London, who has a neutral recommendation on Hydro. "Their actions are in line with what a lot of other commodity companies are doing."

The staff cuts are part of a restructuring program aimed at saving 2.5 billion kroner over the next three years. The cuts would be split equally between hired consultants and Norsk Hydro's employees, mainly in Norway and especially within oil and gas, Mr. Myklebust said.

Norsk Hydro said it was examining a new ownership structure for its

salmon-farming company Hydro Seafood and would evaluate the situation for a number of other smaller units that have "shown superb results."

But Mr. Myklebust stressed that no time limits had been put on the sale and that the company was not interested in "holding a garage sale."

(AFP, Bloomberg)

Norsk Hydro to Cut 1,500 Jobs as Net Sags 28%

OSLO — Norsk Hydro A/S announced Monday a 28 percent drop in net profit for 1998 and said it would cut 1,500 jobs by the summer of 2000 as it restructures.

The Norwegian oil and chemical company said net profit amounted to 3.8 billion kroner (\$496.5 million), down from 5.2 billion kroner in 1997. Pretax profit fell to 5.8 billion kroner from 10.3 billion in 1997. Revenue was steady at 97.5 billion kroner.

Norsk Hydro said its results in 1998 had been strongly affected by a slowing of growth in the global economy that had led to sharp declines in prices for crude oil, fertilizer and petrochemical products.

The company added that these effects were partly offset by a substantial gain from a securities sale and a lower effective tax rate.

The company's chief executive, Egil Myklebust, said Norsk Hydro was considering selling or seeking

international phone market, the state-controlled company is counting on rising use of mobile phones and the Internet to maintain sales growth.

"This shows the company has put in place its new motors for growth," said Bernard Lechar, an analyst at Wargny, who recommends investors buy the stock.

The former French phone monopoly said that for all 1998, sales

rose 5.2 percent, to 24.6 billion euros (\$27.5 billion) from 23.4 billion euros in 1997.

But while mobile phone turnover soared 43.7 percent to 24.5 billion francs, turnover from fixed-line phones fell 3.7 percent to 93.6 billion francs.

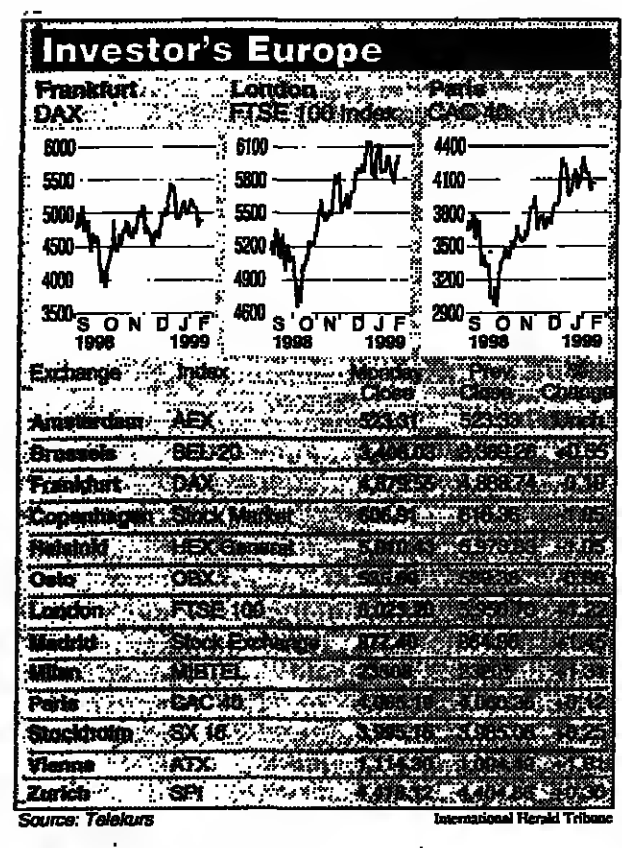
France Telecom shares rose 50 euros to 80.50 euros.

(Bloomberg, AFP)

Internet Helps Boost France Telecom Sales

France Telecom shares rose 50 euros to 80.50 euros.

(Bloomberg, AFP)



Very briefly:

- Italy's industrial output fell a more-than-expected 6.1 percent in December, the second consecutive monthly decline, as production of wood products, metals and machinery fell. It fell 7.6 percent from a year ago, compared with a year-to-year drop of 0.5 percent in November.
- Valora Holding AG, a Swiss retailer and Europe's No. 1 maker of bedding, agreed to buy most of Fotobello SA and said it would bid for the rest in an offer that values the Swiss photograph developer at 427.5 million Swiss francs (\$302 million).
- ACS Construcciones SA, a Spanish construction company, agreed to buy a controlling stake in Continental Arto, one of Spain's largest passenger bus companies, for as much as 33 billion pesetas (\$223 million).
- Europe's single-currency area of 11 nations had an overall current account surplus of 21.8 billion euros (\$24.6 billion) in the third quarter of 1998, down from a 25.2 billion euro surplus in the previous quarter.
- Flextech PLC, a British supplier of pay-TV channels, and the British Broadcasting Corp., Britain's publicly funded broadcaster, are facing a European Union investigation into whether their joint venture restricts competition in the British and Irish TV markets.

WORLD STOCK MARKETS

					High	Low	Close	Prev.
Monday, Feb. 15								
Prices in local currencies								
in euros for ECU countries								
High Low Close Prev.								
Amsterdam								
AEX Index: 358.12					Prev.: 358.12			
ABN-AMRO					18.40	18.10	18.30	18.40
Aegae					39.00	38.40	38.55	39.00
Albion					27.00	26.50	26.70	27.00
Alm Invest					27.00	26.50	26.70	27.00
ASL Lohr					42.00	41.50	41.75	42.00
Banco di Sicilia					8.20	7.95	8.15	8.20
Banco di Napoli					72.00	71.50	71.75	72.00
Banque Paribas					27.00	26.50	26.70	27.00
Banque de France					27.00	26.50	26.70	27.00
Banque de Paris					27.00	26.50	26.70	27.00
Banque de Rome					27.00	26.50	26.70	27.00
Banque de Saint-Etienne					27.00	26.50	26.70	27.00
Banque de Savoie					27.00	26.50	26.70	27.00
Banque de Sicile					27.00	26.50	26.70	27.00
Banque de Tignes					27.00	26.50	26.70	27.00
Banque de Valais					27.00	26.50	26.70	27.00
Banque de Vercors					27.00	26.50	26.70	27.00
Banque de Vienne					27.00	26.50	26.70	27.00
Banque de Zuerich					27.00	26.50	26.70	27.00
Banque de la Reine					27.00	26.50	26.70	27.00
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Japan's Surplus in '98 Soared To Record as Imports Slid

Canon Profit Off 8%; Yen's Rally Hurts It

Canon shares closed up 30 yen at 2,430. The results were

Hong Kong Layoffs Predicted

With Tourism Weak, Thousands of Jobs Could Vanish

In addition, and regardless of the economy, businesses often choose to close up after the Lunar New Year — a traditional time for settling debts — for both practical and cultural reasons.

MICROSOFT: Officials Debate What Type of Sanctions to Seek if Government Wins Antitrust Case

This operating-systems

company simply wouldn't be in the applications business.



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INTERNATIONAL FUTURES

Industrials					
GASOIL (IPE)					
U.S. dollars per metric ton - lots of 100 tons					
Mar 99	93.25	93.00	94.25	+0.50	37,547
Apr 99	94.25	94.25	95.00	-0.25	19,111
May 99	98.25	97.00	97.00	Unch.	10,663
Jun 99	100.50	99.50	99.50	-0.25	10,137
Est. sales: 5,000		Pure. sales: 11,894			
Prev. open int: 126,745 up 892					
BRENT OIL (IPE)					
U.S. dollars per barrel - lots of 1,000 barrels					

INTEREST RATES

Monday, Feb. 15							
Government Debt							
	3-month	6-month	1-year	2-year	5-year	10-year	
Britain	5.90			4.84	4.98	4.47	
Japan	2.87	2.88	2.92	3.09	3.478	4.804	
Germany	3.30	2.97	—	3.536	3.771	3.914	
Italy	2.51	2.49	2.63	3.157	3.694	4.135	
Spain	3.18	3.18	—	4.455	1.32	2.25	
United States	2.97	2.95	2.93	3.027	3.524	4.119	
Yield	3-month	1-year	2-year	5-year	10-year	30-year	
Price			Closed				

Source: Bloomberg.

Money Market Rates					
United States	Tender	Prime	Bid/Bin	Today	Prev

Money Market Rates

Discount Status	Today	Prev	Britain	Today	Prev
Discount rate	4 1/2	4 1/2	Base rate	5 1/2	5 1/2
Prime rate	7 1/4	7 1/4	Call money	5 1/2	5 1/2
Federal funds	4 1/2	4 1/2	3-month interbank	5 1/2	5 1/2
180-day Certs Deposit	—	4.50	6-month interbank	5 1/2	5 1/2
180-day Com. Paper	—	4.80			
Japan					
Source: Bank of Tokyo-Mitsubishi					
Discount rate	0.20	0.20			
Call money	0.12	0.12			
1-month interbank	0.60	0.60			
3-month interbank	0.65	0.65			
6-month interbank	0.67	0.67			
Russia					
Base rate	3.00	3.00			
REPOA	3.00	3.10			
Banker 1-month	3.12	3.14			
Banker 3-month	3.10	3.10			
Banker 6-month	3.05	3.05			

	1-	3-	6-	12-
Dollar	4.82	5.00	5.48	5.912
Euro	3.1224	3.095	3.045	3.038
Swiss	5.6288	6.44	5.731	5.25
Yen	0.2699	0.2613	0.26	0.26
Sfr Franc	1.1809	1.25	1.327	1.4917

Source: Reuters.

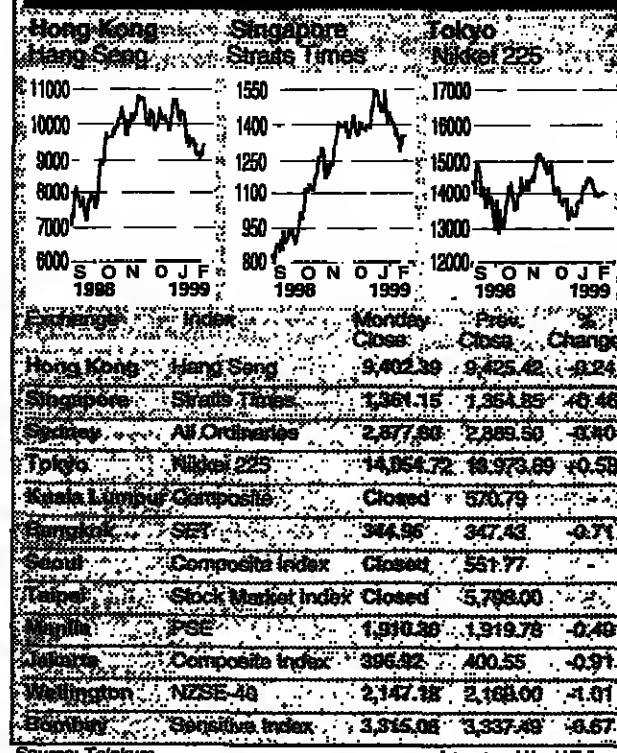
Gold Fixings

	Morning Afternoon	Change	Canadian dollar	1.4921	1.4922	1.4942
			Euro	1.1331		1.1277
London	290.05	289.20	Japanese yen	113.85	113.31	112.77
			Swiss franc	1.4112	1.4074	1.4031

U.S. dollars per ounce.
Source: Reuters.

Source: Associated Press.

Investor's Asia



Very briefly:

liquidated because of financial problems. News reports led Hong Kong regulators to suspend trading in shares of one of its subsidiaries, Critic Holding Co. AFB, AP, Bloomberg

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SPORTS

Women Soccer Players Ready for Prime Time

World Cup to Start June 19 in the U.S.

By George Vecsey
New York Times Service

SAN JOSE, California — Kim Sun Hui was already 17 years old when she first touched a soccer ball with her instep. Before that, women were not encouraged to play soccer in her country, North Korea.

At a time when many nations are promoting soccer as the major team sport for female athletes, Kim made the transition from track and field to soccer. She was here Sunday from Pyongyang, playing in an all-star game to promote the Women's World Cup of soccer.

The North Korean team was one of the 16 nations — 14 qualifiers plus the United States as the host nation and Norway as the defending champion — placed in the draw at halftime Sunday. The competition begins June 19, and in it, Kim's team will again face the United States. The Koreans, along with Denmark and Nigeria, were drawn in Group A with the host.

"The future of football is feminine," said Sepp Blatter, the head of the world soccer body known as FIFA.

As soccer grows in popularity among women — about 30 million play — many tell the same story about facing stereotypes that soccer is a tough-guy game, not suitable for tender females.

"Oh, the women should be home in the kitchen," said Ulrika Karlsson, the goalkeeper from Sweden, one of the more advanced nations for the sport.

Other nations are catching up, trying to catch up in the swell of interest since the first Women's World Cup in China in 1991 and the second in Sweden in 1995.

North Korea has come from virtually nowhere to qualify — the first time any soccer team from that nation has reached a World Cup since the men's team beat

Italy and gave a scare to Portugal in the men's 1966 World Cup in England.

Kim did not begin the way many other of Sunday's All-Stars did — playing against boys in her neighborhood. She was trained as a defender, is quite proud of her ability to intercept passes near the goal.

Many of her teammates Sunday had a full decade of experience on her. Mercy Akide of Nigeria, a rangy midfielder, said that she grew up playing with boys.

"They called me Tomboy," she said, but she said that the women's game has become popular.

Grazielle Grazi of Brazil, a lithe 17-year-old, spoke openly about the old stereotype: "In Brazil there was a lot of bias against women playing soccer. Some people thought that only lesbians played soccer. But now this is not as much of an issue."

Because of the attitudes Grazielle describes, women's soccer in Brazil has developed slowly, despite that country's being the emotional center of the men's sport.

"We have a lot of talent in Brazil," Grazielle said. "Our men's team did not win the World Cup in France so maybe we can win in America."

Some All-Stars have come through an established club system, like Sue Smith of England, whose country did not qualify for the World Cup.

Smith is from Liverpool, and grew up playing against boys in a park.

Smith crossed the Mersey River and joined Tranmere Rovers, whose men's team plays in the English first division. Its women's teams have recently beaten the women from both Liverpool and Everton, the two Merseyside powers.

Born into a family that roots for Everton, Smith sheepishly admits that as a left



The U.S. women's team player Brandi Chastain, right, fighting the World Stars' Mercy Akide for the ball in a match in San Jose, California.

wing she emulates Ryan Giggs, the Welsh left wing for Manchester United.

"When you switch on the telly, that's what you see," Smith said.

But this summer the women will be on the telly — all 32 games will be shown on U.S. television and in many other countries.

The United States, which won the 1996 Summer Olympics tournament, is the favorite, and has been seeded into a slot for games at Giants Stadium in Rutherford, New Jersey, where it plays Denmark on June 19, Soldier Field in Chicago where it meets Nigeria on June 24 and Foxboro Stadium in Massachusetts where it plays North Korea, on June 27.

In Group D, China, the seeded team, meets Australia, Ghana and Sweden. The seed in Group B, Germany, was matched with Brazil, Mexico and Italy.

Norway, the defending champion, is in

Group C. Its opponents — Japan, Canada and Russia — look relatively easy but the Norwegians will have a biocoastal schedule in the first round, and could be affected by the heat as well as the jet lag.

Then, consider Russia, the team seeded fourth in Group C. It plays at Foxboro on June 20, Civic Stadium in Portland, Oregon, on the night of June 23, then back to Giants Stadium for a noon game on June 26 — grueling travel conditions.

But perhaps these brutal journeys around such a huge country are a sign that women's soccer is reaching the big time.

In the exhibition game, the World All-Stars rallied in the second half to defeat the Americans, 2-1. The Canadian striker Charmaine Hooper scored both goals for the World team after the United States took a 1-0 lead on a goal by the midfielder Julie Foudy.

Sacchi Is Quitting Atletico and Soccer

Reuters

MADRID — Arrigo Sacchi, who turned AC Milan into one of Europe's greatest teams and took Italy to the World Cup final, said Monday that he had resigned as coach of Atletico Madrid and was quitting the game.

Sacchi, 52, was eight months into a two-year contract at the Spanish First Division club which he said would be the last job in his 22-year coaching career.

Sacchi resigned after three successive league defeats. Atletico is ninth in the 20-team Spanish league, 11 points behind Barcelona, the leader.

"From now on, I'm no longer coach of Atletico Madrid," said Sacchi, who led Milan to European Cup triumphs in 1989 and 1990 and Italy to the 1994 World Cup final. "I'm also bringing to an end my career as a soccer coach."

Sacchi, who arrived at a news conference smiling and relaxed but looked close to tears as he read from a statement, said, "I'm exhausted, which is why I've taken the decision."

Sacchi will be replaced in the short term by Carlos Aguirre, the reserve team coach. Sacchi, who was hired in May, had been the 21st coach appointed by Jesus Gil in his 12 years as club president.

Gil said the Italian had left "as a gentleman."

But Gil added, "The players were just unable to adapt to his system of play."

Empoli, which is last in Italy's Serie A, hired little-known Corrado Orrico as its new coach Monday after sacking Mauro Sandroni the day before.

Marseille Fans Cause Trouble

French soccer officials expressed concern Monday over fan violence Sunday at the end of Marseille's 1-0 loss at Toulouse. Reuters reported from Paris.

"We are waiting for a report from the referee there will be a disciplinary committee meeting to deal with the matter, a league spokesman said. "But we must admit that we are concerned. This is not the first time Marseille's fans have been mixed up in outbreaks of violence."

Three security guards were injured in clashes with Marseille fans after the team lost to a late penalty and failed to regain first place in the league.

In December, Marseille was banned from using its own stadium for one match after its fans invaded the field before a 3-0 victory over Metz.

"Clubs must be aware they are responsible for their supporters even when they play away," the spokesman said.

EU Investigates UEFA Negotiating Tactics

Reuters

BONN — Karel Van Miert, the European Union Competition chief, said he was investigating a claim that UEFA, which runs European soccer, and the English Premier League forced clubs to accept UEFA's proposed competition in preference to one proposed by an outside group.

Van Miert told Die Welt, the Ger-

man weekly, that he acted after a complaint from Media Partners, a marketing agency that tried to create a breakaway European league.

"Media Partners claims that UEFA and the league used their dominant position to forbid the clubs to talk to them," Van Miert said. "Naturally, you should not do that. The clubs must be free to talk to others."

SCOREBOARD

BASKETBALL

NBA STANDINGS

EASTERN CONFERENCE

Team	W	L	Pct	GB
Orlando	1	1	.500	—
Philadelphia	1	1	.500	—
Washington	1	1	.500	—
Atlanta	1	1	.500	—
Charlotte	1	1	.500	—
Chicago	1	1	.500	—

CENTRAL DIVISION

Team	W	L	Pct	GB
Atlanta	1	1	.500	—
Indiana	1	1	.500	—
Detroit	1	1	.500	—
Cleveland	1	1	.500	—
Toronto	1	1	.500	—
Charlotte	1	1	.500	—
Chicago	1	1	.500	—

PACIFIC DIVISION

Team	W	L	Pct	GB
San Antonio	1	1	.500	—
Phoenix	1	1	.500	—
Portland	1	1	.500	—
Golden State	1	1	.500	—
Los Angeles	1	1	.500	—
Utah	1	1	.500	—
San Jose	1	1	.500	—

WESTERN CONFERENCE

Team	W	L	Pct	GB
San Antonio	1	1	.500	—
Phoenix	1	1	.500	—
Portland	1	1	.500	—
Golden State	1	1	.500	—
Los Angeles	1	1	.500	—
Utah	1	1	.500	—
San Jose	1	1	.500	—

U.S. COLLEGE SCORES

Team	W	L	Pct	GB
Orlando	1	1	.500	—
Philadelphia	1	1	.500	—
Washington	1	1	.500	—
Atlanta	1	1	.500	—
Charlotte	1	1	.500	—
Chicago	1	1	.500	—

ICE HOCKEY

NHL STANDINGS

EASTERN CONFERENCE

Team	W	L	Pct	GB
Philadelphia	1	1	.500	—
New Jersey	1	1	.500	—
Pittsburgh	1	1	.500	—
N.Y. Rangers	1	1	.500	—
Washington	1	1	.500	—
Florida	1	1	.500	—
Atlanta	1	1	.500	—

CENTRAL DIVISION

Team	W	L	Pct	GB
St. Louis	1	1	.500	—
Chicago	1	1	.500	—
Minnesota	1	1	.500	—
Buffalo	1	1	.500	—
Calgary	1	1	.500	—
Edmonton	1	1	.500	—
Vancouver	1	1	.500	—

PACIFIC DIVISION

Team	W	L	Pct	GB
San Jose	1	1	.500	—
Los Angeles	1	1	.500	—
San Diego	1	1	.500	—
Phoenix	1	1	.500	—
Colorado	1	1	.500	—
Utah	1	1	.500	—
San Jose	1	1	.500	—

WORLD CHAMPIONSHIPS

Team	W	L	Pct	GB
USA	1	1	.500	—
Canada	1	1	.500	—
Sweden	1	1	.500	—
Czech Republic	1	1	.500	—
Slovakia	1	1	.500	—
Finland	1	1	.500	—
Russia	1	1	.500	—

TRANSITIONS

Team	W	L	Pct	GB
Orlando	1	1	.500	—
Philadelphia	1	1	.500	—
Washington	1	1	.500	—
Atlanta	1	1	.500	—
Charlotte	1	1	.500	—
Chicago	1	1	.500	—

WORLD CHAMPIONSHIPS

WOMEN'S WORLD CUP

Team	W	L	Pct	GB
USA	1	1	.500	—
Canada	1	1	.500	—
Sweden	1	1	.500	—
Czech Republic	1	1	.500	—
Slovakia	1	1	.500	—
Finland	1	1	.500	—
Russia	1	1	.500	—

SKIIING

Team	W	L	Pct	GB
USA	1	1	.500	—
Canada	1	1	.500	—
Sweden	1	1	.500	—
Czech Republic	1	1	.500	—
Slovakia	1	1	.500	—
Finland	1	1	.500	—
Russia	1	1	.500	—

WORLD CHAMPIONSHIPS

Team	W	L	Pct	GB
USA	1	1	.500	—
Canada	1	1	.500	—
Sweden	1	1	.500	—
Czech Republic	1	1	.500	—
Slovakia	1	1	.500	—
Finland	1	1	.500	—
Russia	1	1	.500	—

WORLD CHAMPIONSHIPS

Team	W	L	Pct	GB
USA	1	1	.500	—
Canada	1	1	.500	—
Sweden	1	1	.500	—
Czech Republic	1	1	.500	—
Slovakia	1	1	.500	—
Finland	1	1	.500	—
Russia	1	1	.500	—

WORLD CHAMPIONSHIPS

Team	W	L	Pct	GB
USA	1	1	.500	—
Canada	1	1	.500	—
Sweden	1	1	.500	—
Czech Republic	1	1	.500	—
Slovakia	1	1	.500	—
Finland	1	1	.500	—
Russia	1	1	.500	—

WORLD CHAMPIONSHIPS

Team	W	L	Pct	GB
USA	1	1	.500	—
Canada	1	1	.500	—
Sweden	1	1	.500	—
Czech Republic	1	1	.500	—
Slovakia	1	1	.500	—
Finland	1	1	.500	—
Russia	1	1	.500	—

WORLD CHAMPIONSHIPS

WOMEN'S WORLD CUP

Team	W	L	Pct	GB
USA	1	1	.500	—
Canada	1	1	.500	—
Sweden	1	1	.500	—
Czech Republic	1	1	.500	—
Slovakia	1	1	.500	—
Finland	1	1	.500	—
Russia	1	1	.500	—

SKIIING

Team	W	L	Pct	GB
USA	1	1	.500	—
Canada	1	1	.500	—
Sweden	1	1	.500	—
Czech Republic	1	1	.500	—
Slovakia	1	1	.500	—
Finland	1	1	.500	—
Russia	1	1	.500	—

WORLD CHAMPIONSHIPS

Team	W	L	Pct	GB
USA	1	1	.500	—
Canada	1	1	.500	—
Sweden	1	1	.500	—
Czech Republic	1	1	.500	—
Slovakia	1	1	.500	—
Finland	1	1	.500	—
Russia	1	1	.500	—

WORLD CHAMPIONSHIPS

Team	W	L	Pct	GB
USA	1	1	.500	—
Canada	1	1	.500	—
Sweden	1	1	.500	—
Czech Republic	1	1	.500	—
Slovakia	1	1	.500	—
Finland	1	1	.500	—
Russia	1	1	.500	—

WORLD CHAMPIONSHIPS

Team	W	L	Pct	GB
USA	1	1	.500	—
Canada	1	1	.500	—
Sweden	1	1	.500	—
Czech Republic	1	1	.500	—
Slovakia	1	1	.500	—
Finland	1	1	.500	—
Russia	1	1	.500	—

ART BUCHWALD

Starr Goes to Court

NEW YORK — Just when you thought it was safe to go back into the shark-infested Whitewater, a new revelation is disclosed to try one's soul.

The Justice Department announced that it was investigating the independent counsel Ken Starr and his staff for perjury, one of this country's most despicable high crimes and misdemeanors.



Did Starr offer Linda Tripp a job for her testimony? Did he buy gifts for Lewinsky's mother? Did he leak information about Betty Currie to the National Enquirer, and did he personally wiretap Chelsea Clinton's telephone at Stanford?

As Starr has said many times in many places, no man in this country is above the law — neither the president of the United States nor the special prosecutor of the president of the United States.

I am not saying Starr did anything wrong. But if it is proved that he did, then the House of Representatives has a duty to send him back to defend General Motors, where he belongs.

The person behind the investigation is Attorney General Janet Reno, and, like it or

not, she may have to appoint a special prosecutor to investigate a special prosecutor, which would be a first in our history.

The questions the Justice Department must discover the answers to are: What was Starr's relationship with Jones, and what were his people doing for six hours with Monica Lewinsky at the Ritz Carlton in Virginia?

Personally, I don't believe that it is true. But if it is, I think we should get to the bottom of it and subpoena every witness as well as the mothers of all Starr's staff. Then we round up as many grand juries as is necessary to see that justice is done. If it ever did happen, it will never happen again.

The independent counsel is accused of lying about contacts with Paula Jones's lawyers and misleading the Justice Department down the yellow brick road.

The person behind the investigation is Attorney General Janet Reno, and, like it or

A South Korean Director's Ode to the Ordinary

By Joan Dupont
International Herald Tribune

ROTTERDAM — Hong Sang Soo does not make buddy movies, melodramas or gangster epics. He creates his own genre and, unlike another prize-winning South Korean director, Jang Sun Woo of "Timeless, Bottomless, Bad Movie," Hong's movies are not about bad street kids but sad graduate students.

Hong's first film, the critically praised "The Day a Pig Fell Down the Well," won the Tiger Award for best film in Rotterdam two years ago. His second, "The Power of Kangwon Province," won a critics' prize at Cannes and started its European career here. These are films in which the camera barely moves and almost nothing happens.

"I film ordinary people, everyday life," the director says. The characters in "Kangwon Province" go to a beautiful mountain resort near Seoul to get away from it all — foggy weather, failed love affairs, broken friendships — only to come home hungover and defeated, because, he says, "there is no escape from Korea."

Hong, 38, is solemn and shy. He grew up on American films of the 1960s, got a bachelor of fine arts degree at the California College of Arts and Crafts in Oakland, and a master's degree at the Art Institute of Chicago. But the American experience seems to have left no mark. His English is a confidential matter, a foreign language.

"Maybe I'm remote from influences. I grew up hearing every day that we were influenced by America, but I never thought deeply about it. I follow my own curiosity, which seems to be more European." He went to Chicago with the idea of making experimental films and had a moment of revelation when he saw films by Robert Bresson and Luis Bunuel.

"The Power of Kangwon Province" is based on two separate stories told in sequence yet mysteriously connected. "Probably the way I work comes from my experimental background. To me, a script is just a starting point. I think form is everything; each film must have a different form."

In his last film, which he says is "dangerously personal, an improvisation and adventure into the unknown," a graduate student travels to Kangwon to get over an unhappy affair with her professor, but she floats through reminders of her loneliness. In the second sequence, the professor takes off



A scene from "The Power of Kangwon Province," directed by Hong Sang Soo.

for a festive holiday and almost crosses paths with the girl. The mirage of blue skies and sexual freedom cloud over, he drinks too much and when he tries to leave, there are no planes out.

"I choose a situation from everyday life, and want to view it through the film medium," he says. "Every step of the way is creative, just looking for the right kind of weather, and casting, the most exciting part of making a movie. I find my actors in subway stations, classrooms, and I change the character I wrote to mix him with the real person. It's like writing a diary. And when I'm finished with the film, I've finished with the situation."

The choice of telling the stories separately came about by accident. "I had written two stories, and one day I looked at my notes and saw how they could become one film. My

motto is: What you get through hard work is good, but the gifts we get — accidents, coincidences — are the most precious."

There is little music in the film, nothing to ease the damp mood but wry humor. In Rotterdam, the film was met with intense concentration, but in Seoul, there were "not exactly laughs," but ripples of recognition.

"Some are interested in my formal structure," he said, "some by the unsentimental treatment, and others find twists in the dialogue that make them smile, for I am talking about a Korean experience."

Hong's parents grew up under Japanese occupation. And his father was a soldier in the Japanese Army in North Korea when the Soviet Union took over in World War II.

"To avoid prison, he joined the North Korean Army, then defected to the South because he knew he was in danger of de-

nunciation. He was intelligent and became a high-ranking officer in South Korea, but my parents divorced and I didn't spend much time with him; he died when I was 20." His mother worked in a film production company and is now a translator.

The youngest of four, he is the only child in the family to have made a career in film. "That doesn't make me different, because I think everybody is different. But I was very introverted as a child. I had no friends, no aim or ambition. I only liked to do things I could do alone, like doodling. It took me years to find out what I wanted."

When he returned from Chicago at age 32, he finally knew. He directed a series called "Writers and Their Best-Sellers" for the Seoul Broadcasting Station, worked for a video production company to make money, and then a film production company, where he wrote his first script. "I was lucky; they liked it, so I started making movies."

The movies, with their focus on missed relationships, are out of the mainstream. Made for a budget of \$650,000, "The Day a Pig Fell Down the Well" did not do his box office. "The Power of Kangwon Province," he says, did a bit better and earned the label "cinema of subversion."

Directors of the "New Korean" films, like Hong and Jang, are raked over the coals by professionals at home, and trotted out to perform at festivals. Miracin Korea Film, which produced "The Power of Kangwon Province" and "Timeless, Bottomless, Bad Movie," made money distributing "Pulp Fiction" in South Korea and was willing to lose money in exchange for international prestige, a Cannes prize.

Although Hong has blocked out his recent trip to Cannes and cannot even remember the name of his hotel, he is learning the value of festivals. "I want to make movies in Korea so I need to work up interest and money — prizes help. Then I come back to Seoul, where I live with my wife and my child. I try to keep them out of all this, because I want my home to be a place where my child can play and relax, so I can't bring back, you know," he smiles for the first time, "all these exciting people."

"My concern is to be concrete; that's where the film medium is powerful. I want to make a film that is constructed like everyday life, that doesn't degenerate into symbols. I don't want my actors looking for symbolic gestures. I want them to act like themselves, like real people."

'When Robots Rule,' in London

New York Times Service

LONDON — An airplane factory will begin operation Tuesday at the Tate Gallery in London. But it's not as if the home of the National Collections of British and Modern Art had decided to abandon art for commerce. The manufacturing complex in the Tate's Duveen Galleries is an installation, "When Robots Rule: The One-Minute Airplane Factory."

Created specifically for the galleries by the American artist Chris Burden, the 20-foot-long (6-meter-long) robotic assembly line transforms tissue paper, balsa wood and plastic into rubber-band-powered model airplanes in a sequence that ends with each plane ascending some 60 feet and landing on the gallery floor.

Having illuminated the principles of mass production, the factory will close on June 6, after making, the museum hopes, about 36,000 aircraft.



Harry Belafonte with his NAACP award.

THE actor Will Smith was named Entertainer of the Year and the former Chicago Bulls star Michael Jordan was honored with the Jackie Robinson Sports Award at the 30th annual NAACP Image Awards at the Pasadena Civic Auditorium. The honorees Sunday also included Harry Belafonte, the opera singer Kathleen Battle, the blues guitarist B.B. King and the singer Lauryn Hill.

If Dustin Hoffman had his way, he would be writing characters instead of playing them. Hoffman, who is to receive the American Film Institute's Life Achievement Award on Thursday, said he was not entirely satisfied with acting and has been secretly writing a screenplay for years. "My first choice would be to be the author," he

told the Los Angeles Times. "I can't help being this way."

A much-anticipated concert by Luciano Pavarotti in Hamilton, Ontario, was canceled just as the house lights were about to dim Sunday night. The audience was informed just before show time that Pavarotti would be unable to perform. A spokesman for Copps Coliseum said the Italian singer was suffering from strained vocal cords. A sold-out 500 gala dinner was to go ahead as planned. Tickets for Sunday's concert were to be redeemed for a rescheduled concert on July 11.

When Hollywood decided to make a movie out of "Angela's Ashes," Frank McCourt's best-selling memoir

of his poverty-stricken boyhood, the first task was to find a proper Irish slum. Not so easy to today's more prosperous Ireland, Newsweek says its Feb. 22 issue. Unable to find the right sort of griminess in Limerick or anywhere

else, the filmmakers spent 25 million to create it on a vacant lot in Dublin, right down to the tiny family kitchen. McCourt visited the set for just a few days, but found even that a little too real. "It's an abundance of emotions tum-

bling in. There's sadness and nostalgia and wonder and a feeling of removal," he said. "I'm jolted into the past and jolted forward into my very successful present. It'd be neat if I could have just one emotion, but I don't."

mineries before now, only it was never offered.

Meryl Streep has received a special award from the Berlin International Film Festival in recognition of her contribution to the movies.

Buckingham Palace Uproar

Agence France-Press

LONDON — Buckingham Palace on Sunday acknowledged that horses of Queen Elizabeth's royal guard are occasionally drugged to prevent surprise outbursts during ceremonies.

"It is only done when the horse is inexperienced and a bit bouncy and skittish. It is not normal practice. It doesn't happen all the time," a palace spokesman said in response to a charge by an animal rights organization.

The queen was aware of the practice, he said, adding: "The queen always takes an interest in the welfare of the horses."

"I am astounded," said Jonathan Owen, of the World Society for the Protection of Animals. "You shouldn't use these horses if you can't train them properly."

Lauren Bacall doesn't have many nice things to say about Hollywood, even though she recently finished her first television miniseries there. "What I don't like about it is the general mentality," she said of the showbiz culture. "They ignore accomplishment. They don't understand talent. It's only about money." Bacall, who plays the title character in the CBS miniseries "Too Rich: The Secret Life of Doris Duke," told the New York Daily News that she would have gladly taken a job in a

The 2-year-old daughter of the rocker Michael Hutchence is claiming part of his estate for her maintenance and education, according to documents filed with the New South Wales Supreme Court on Monday. Heavenly Hiraani Tiger Lily Hutchence, through her godmother, Belinda Brewin, is asking for an unspecified lump sum, plus interest and costs. Hutchence, a singer with the Australian group INXS, committed suicide in a Sydney hotel in 1997.



(take in a rock show)

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Egypt (Cairo)	510-0200	Italy	172-1011
France	0-800-95-0011	Netherlands	0800-022-9111
Germany	0130-0010	Russia (Moscow)	755-5042
		Saudi Arabia	1-800-11
		Spain	900-95-00-11
		Sweden	020-795-411
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The World's Daily Newspaper

No Immunity
When the Th
Sneezed, Wor
Caught a Col
Experts Ignored Warni
And Misdiagnosed One
Of a Serious Global Cru

By Nicholas D. Kristof
and Sheryl WuDunn

When a doctor in Moscow, Russia, told me that he had just received a letter from a patient who had been diagnosed with a rare disease, I was struck by the name of the disease: "The Great Escape." It was a disease that had been known for centuries, but it was only in the last few years that it had become a major health problem. The disease was called "The Great Escape" because it was a disease that had been known for centuries, but it was only in the last few years that it had become a major health problem.

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